Announcing two Spring Poetry Readings at the Phoenix Art Museum

TUCSON (January 25, 2015) —Continuing on a successful collaboration from the fall 2014 season that brought Walt Whitman’s illustrator Allen Crawford and award-winning poet Thomas Sayers Ellis to Phoenix audiences, the University of Arizona Poetry Center and Phoenix Art Museum will again partner to offer a reading and lecture series this spring, featuring award winning poet and translator Fady Joudah and acclaimed visual artist and poet Jen Bervin.

Fady Joudah will read his poetry and translations at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, February 18, at Phoenix Art Museum. Joudah is a Guggenheim fellow in poetry and his first book The Earth in the Attic was published in the Yale Series for Younger Poets. His translations from the Arabic of poets Mahmoud Darwish, Ghassan Zaqtan and Amjad Nasser have been recognized with the PEN USA Literary Translation Prize and the Griffin International Poetry Prize. Joudah’s most recent collection is Textu, a book-long sequence of short poems 160 characters in length, the maximum size of a text message. Textu has been published as both an e-book and print collection by Copper Canyon Press. Joudah is also a practicing physician of internal medicine in Houston, Texas and active in the group Doctors Without Borders. This reading is co-sponsored by The University of Arizona College of Medicine-Phoenix and its Department of Bioethics and Medical Humanism, as well as its Narrative Medicine and Medical Humanities Program.

Poet and acclaimed and visual artist Jen Bervin will speak at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 1 at Phoenix Art Museum about Emily Dickinson: The Gorgeous Nothings, a facsimile edition of Emily Dickinson’s late envelope poems, that she co-edited with the scholar Marta Werner. Bervin has received support from Rauschenberg Foundation, The Bogliasco Foundation, Creative Capital, New York Foundation for the Arts and others. Her works are held in more than thirty collections including the Walker Art Center and The J. Paul Getty Museum. She has published four books with Granary Books and three others with Ugly Duckling Presse. Emily Dickinson: The Gorgeous Nothings was published by New Directions and was selected as a Best Book of the Year for 2013 from Times Literary Supplement, Hyperallergic and The New Yorker.
About The University of Arizona Poetry Center
The University of Arizona Poetry Center is housed in one of three landmark buildings for poetry in the nation. In addition to its world-renowned collection of contemporary poetry, the Poetry Center is known for its long running readings and lecture series, international symposia, classes and workshops, writers’ residencies, and a wide range of programs for children and youth. The Poetry Center was recognized with a 2014 Governors Arts Award. For more information about the Poetry Center, please visit poetry.arizona.edu or call (520) 626-3765.

About Phoenix Art Museum
Phoenix Art Museum has provided access to visual arts and educational programs in Arizona for more than 50 years and is the largest art museum in the Southwestern United States. Top national and international exhibitions are shown alongside the museum’s collection of more than 18,000 objects of American, Asian, European, Latin American, Western American, modern and contemporary art, photography and fashion design. The museum hosts photography exhibitions through its landmark partnership with The University of Arizona’s Center for Creative Photography in Tucson. Visitors can also enjoy the PhxArtKids gallery, the Dorrance Sculpture Garden, the Thorne Miniature Rooms of historic interiors, and a collection of works by renowned Arizona artist Philip C. Curtis. For additional information about Phoenix Art Museum please visit phxart.org or call 602-257-1880.

For additional information about these events please visit poetry.arizona.edu.