

VETERANS' POETRY WORKSHOP
OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY, OXFORD, UK
16-18 AUGUST 2019

Oxford Brookes Poetry Centre is looking for 2-3 US veterans to take part in a fully-funded three-day poetry workshop in Oxford in mid-August.

Drawing on the expertise of the Poetry Centre – a home for research into poetry and advocacy of its value in society (<https://www.brookes.ac.uk/poetry-centre/>) – this workshop, designed and led by poets, veterans and academics, seeks to explore how poetry can enable veterans to think through their experiences. It will consider:

- how poetry might be read and used by military veterans
- how far 'war poetry' represents – or fails to represent – military service
- the role that poetry can play in post-war commemorative events.

Building on the success of a previous workshop in March, this workshop will bring together poets, academics, and a small group of US and UK veterans to read and discuss poetry written about war, veteran experience and related topics. After our March workshop, participants described the event as 'incredibly well run' and valuable because 'coming to understand the lives we live as vets in different countries can have great bearing on our work.'

The participants selected will work towards the compilation of a fully accessible anthology that would contain poetry selected by and/or written by the workshop participants. The anthology would be promoted to veteran charities and organizations in the UK and US and beyond, and we will encourage organizers to use the texts at commemorative events.

We are seeking 2-3 veterans to take part in the workshop, and whilst you should be enthusiastic about reading and thinking about poetry, you do not need to be a writer to join us.

To apply, please e-mail a short statement (of not more than 250 words) by Monday 1 July, explaining why you would like to be considered for a place at the workshop to niall.munro@brookes.ac.uk Given the small number of places available, the selection process is likely to be competitive, but the project team will make a decision quickly. If you are not selected, there may be a chance to take part in future workshops.

The project is funded by Oxford Brookes University, and travel to and from Oxford, accommodation, and subsistence will all be covered. For more details or information, please contact the project leader, Dr Niall Munro: niall.munro@brookes.ac.uk

We look forward to hearing from you!