

**Washington State Poet Laureate** 

Elizabeth Austen Monday, April 27,

2015



April is Poetry Month! Help us welcome Washington Poet Laureate Elizabeth Austen with a pair of events.

Elizabeth Austen

Workshop, 3:30-5 p.m. in Main, Room 146

Free, hands-on poetry workshop designed to engage participants' imaginations, life histories and sense of empathy through language. The class includes close reading of a few contemporary poems, then using one as a model for writing our own first draft. No previous writing experience needed.

## Reading, with local poet Joseph Green Longview Public Library from 7-8 p.m.

Elizabeth Austen is the Washington State Poet Laureate for 2014-16. Her collection Every Dress a Decision (Blue Begonia Press, 2011) was a finalist for the Washington State Book Award. She's also the author of two chapbooks, The Girl Who Goes Alone (Floating Bridge Press, 2010) and Where Currents Meet (Toadlily Press, 2010). Elizabeth earned an MFA in Poetry at Antioch University Los Angeles. She produces poetry programming for NPR-affiliate KUOW 94.9 and makes her living at Seattle Children's Hospital, where she also offers poetry and reflective writing workshops for the staff. Her visit is being funded by Humanities Washington.

## The public is invited to these free events. lowercolumbia.edu/aande for more information.

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