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**FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM RECEIVES NEA GRANT FOR THE BIG READ
BROCKTON WILL COME TOGETHER THIS FALL TO READ AND CELEBRATE
THE POEMS OF EMILY DICKINSON**

(Brockton, Mass. – Sept. 16, 2010)—Fuller Craft Museum has been awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to lead Big Read activities in Southeastern Massachusetts. Fuller Craft will launch its program in celebration of the poetry of Emily Dickinson with a teen event on Oct. 16. All Big Read events listed below are free and open to the public. The Big Read in Brockton is presented in partnership with the Brockton Public Library and the Greater Brockton Society for Poetry and the Arts.

The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. The NEA presents The Big Read in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with Arts Midwest. Support for The Big Read has been provided by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, the Boeing Company, the Poetry Foundation, and the Ford Motor Company.

“I would like to congratulate all the collaborators who worked to obtain this funding for our City,” said Brockton Mayor Linda M. Balzotti. “It will allow our wonderful cultural institutions, like the Fuller Craft Museum, to expand their offerings and work with other agencies like the Brockton Public Library and the Greater Brockton Society of Poetry and the Arts to help foster a love of reading in residents young and old.”

According to Executive Director Wyona Lynch-McWhite, “Fuller Craft Museum is pleased to be working with our partners to participate in this national initiative to develop our communities of literary learners and critical thinkers. These communities support and nurture the broad spectrum of the cultural arts and add richness to the lives of those of us who live within them.”

Brockton is one of 75 communities nationwide participating in The Big Read from September 2010-June 2011. To date, the NEA has funded more than 800 Big Read programs in the nation’s towns and cities. From September through December 2010, Brockton will celebrate the poems of Emily Dickinson with a full calendar of events including those listed below.

Saturday, Oct. 16, 1—5 p.m. – Express Yourself! Poetry Event for Teens

Teens will try writing poems that can be tweeted, and discuss your favorite song lyrics as poetry. Prominent Brocktonians will read their favorite poems. Teens will work with poets from the Greater Brockton Society for Poetry and the Arts and discover their inner poets. At the end of the day, they will share what they learned and wrote.

At Main Library, 304 Main Street

Saturday, Oct. 23, 11 a.m.—noon – A Lady Named Emily: Emily Dickinson for Grades K-3 (with Spanish translation provided)

This story hour for families is a wonderful introduction to Dickinson. They will hear the story of a young girl who meets the mystery lady living in the yellow house across the street, who turns out to be Emily Dickinson.

At Main Library, 304 Main Street

Wednesday, Oct. 27, 6:30—8:30 p.m. – Every Broom and Budget: Emily Dickinson and Her Servants

Tom Daley, a Boston-area poet and educator, performs his one man play examining the life of Emily Dickinson through the eyes and voices of her servants. Adults and teens will enjoy this exploration of the relationships between the affluent Yankee poet and her Irish immigrant staff, as Daley uses humor and satire to give shape and substance to the reclusive poet in this intriguing performance.

At Fuller Craft Museum

Saturday, Nov. 6, 10 a.m.—noon. – Book Making and Poetry for Teens (Session 1)

Teens will hear Emily Dickinson's poems and be inspired to write their own poetry in a book they make themselves. This workshop designed for middle school, eighth and ninth graders, gives them the opportunity to make their very own book to take home. Enrollment is limited and advance registration is required through Fuller Craft Museum's Education Department at 508-588-6000.

At Fuller Craft Museum

Saturday, Nov. 6, 11 a.m.—noon – A Lady Named Emily: Emily Dickinson for Grades K-3 (with Spanish translation provided)

This story hour for families is a wonderful introduction to Dickinson. They will hear the story of a young girl who meets the mystery lady living in the yellow house across the street, who turns out to be Emily Dickinson.

At Main Library, 304 Main Street

Tuesday, Nov. 9, 7—8:30 p.m.— An Evening Discussion of the Poetry of Emily Dickinson for Teens and Adults

Participants hear the words of Dickinson read aloud and then join in a discussion of the works, exploring the meanings of her poems and sharing personal thoughts and interpretations.

At Main Library, 304 Main Street

Saturday, Nov. 13, 2—3 p.m.— Emily Dickinson: Life and Legend

Controversy, myth and legend swirl through the history of one of New England's most famous poets - Emily Dickinson. Jane Wald, Director of the Emily Dickinson Museum in Amherst, shares the story of this intriguing young woman's life in a special lecture presentation.

At Fuller Craft Museum

Wednesday, Nov. 17, 7—8:30 p.m.— An Evening Discussion of the Poetry of Emily Dickinson for Teens and Adults

Participants hear the words of Dickinson read aloud and then join in a discussion of the works, exploring the meanings of her poems and sharing personal thoughts and interpretations.

At Fuller Craft Museum

Saturday, Nov. 20, 10 a.m.—noon. – Book Making and Poetry for Teens (Session 2)

Teens will hear Emily Dickinson's poems and be inspired to write their own poetry in a book they make themselves. This workshop designed for middle school, eighth and ninth graders, gives them the opportunity to make their very own book to take home. Enrollment is limited and advance registration is required through the Boys & Girls Club.

At Boys & Girls Club, 233 Warren Avenue

Saturday, Nov. 20, 11 a.m.—noon – A Lady Named Emily: Emily Dickinson for Grades K-3 (with Spanish translation provided)

This story hour for families is a wonderful introduction to Dickinson. They will hear the story of a young girl who meets the mystery lady living in the yellow house across the street, who turns out to be Emily Dickinson.

At Main Library, 304 Main Street

Wednesday, Dec. 1, 6:30—8 p.m.. – Poetry in the Galleries for Teens and Adults

Share Emily Dickinson's poetry in the Museum's galleries. Readers will invite the audience to contemplate and discuss a poem read aloud along with a piece of art work chosen by the reader for that poem. Enjoy various poems in a variety of galleries, connecting visual art with the spoken word.

At Fuller Craft Museum

About Fuller Craft Museum

Fuller Craft Museum, New England's only museum of contemporary craft, is dedicated to the objects, ideas, and insight that inspire both patrons and artists to explore life through the art of contemporary craft. Fuller Craft Museum is located at 455 Oak St. in Brockton, Mass. The Museum is open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m.— 5 p.m., with free admission for all Wednesdays from 5—9 p.m. Admission is \$8 adults, \$5 seniors and students, free for members and children 12 and under. For more information on Fuller Craft exhibitions and events please visit www.fullercraft.org or call (508) 588-6000.

Current Exhibitions at Fuller Craft

Furniture From the Permanent Collection
Through Sept. 26, 2010

Caravan: An Installation by John Garrett
Through March 27, 2011

Josh Simpson: A Visionary Journey in Glass
Extended through Jan. 2, 2011

The New Materiality: Digital Dialogues at the Boundaries of Contemporary Craft
Through Feb. 6, 2011

Different Lines: Drawings by Craft Artists
Through Feb. 27, 2011

Boxes and their Makers
Through Oct. 31, 2010

Migration: Upper Porter Pond
Through Oct. 31, 2010

Art ASPIRE
Through Oct. 18, 2010

Coming Soon to Fuller Craft

Photo Clay: In the Picture with Warren Mather
Oct. 9, 2010—January 23, 2011

Changing Waters: Installation by Nathalie Miebach
Jan. 15 – Sept. 25, 2011

The Legacy of Atelier Janiyé
Jan. 22 – July 24, 2011

Loom and Lathe: The Art of Kay Sekimachi and Bob Stocksdale
Feb. 5 – Sept. 11, 2011

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Fuller Craft Museum, New England's home for contemporary craft.

