

New Mexico poets coming to Des Moines School

By **TIM KELLER**
The Chronicle-News

Popular New Mexico poets Beatrice Tsosie and Manuel González will spend three days next week teaching poetry workshops with the secondary-school students at Des Moines School. With grant funding from New Mexico Arts, the school contracted with New Mexico CultureNet to bring the poets to Des Moines, where they will work with the classes of language arts teachers Vicki Ebell and Amy Burchard.

Poets, students, and teachers will present a performance in the school's Activity Room at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 17. Showcasing writings that haven't even been created yet, the event will be offered to the public free of charge.



Photos courtesy New Mexico CultureNet

Professional New Mexico poets Beata Tsosie, above, and Manuel González bring their talents to Des Moines School next week.

Manuel González is a performance poet from Albuquerque who was featured in the PBS documentary "Colores". His family is from Anton Chico. The coach of Santa Fe High School's poetry slam team, González also works as an art therapist and teaches self-expression and poetry in high schools and youth detention centers. He has competed in the poetry slam nationals several times as a member of Albuquerque's poetry slam team.

Beata Tsosie calls herself a mother, wife, aunt, sister, teacher, student, and creative person. She enjoys drawing, reading, flamenco dance, theatre, West African drumming, music, and poetry in all its forms. She's certified in infant massage and permaculture design. While completing her teaching certification, she's learning electric bass on the side, with dreams of joining her husband's hard-core punk band. After growing up in El Rito, she and her family now live in Santa Clara Pueblo, where her native heritage is shared with German/Irish descent.

Both González and Tsosie bring to Des Moines a reverence for their respective New Mexico upbringings. Their workshops will help students explore and express their own feelings toward their community, their culture, and themselves. As González writes, "Looking within oneself and examining one's roots are the essence of poetry. Emotions, feelings, experiences, and writing in an historical and cultural context are the goals."

A.R. Mitchell Museum and Seniors, Inc. become partners

Special to the Chronicle-News

The A.R. Mitchell Museum and Seniors, Inc., have joined forces to help each other for the coming year. This is a natural fit, as Seniors, Inc. provides much needed income for folks age 55 and over, and the Mitchell needs people to work as Docents, and Gift Shop personnel. The Museum would act as a Host-Agent, training and supervising the seniors, while Seniors Inc. would sign the paycheck. A better symbiotic relationship would be difficult to imagine!

The A.R. Mitchell Museum is delighted to host the seniors, providing a wonderful Gift Shop to work in, or as a Front Desk greeter who would be taught the history of A.R. Mitchell, information on the collections and what to say to the many tourists who come from all over the globe. This is an opportunity to get-out, get dressed-up, make new friends, talk to guests, help with the many events and collect some "mad money", all in the beautiful architecture of

the Mitchell Museum. This part-time job might give someone a sense of purpose, knowing that the person is truly needed. Oh, and does the museum ever need help! The rewards are twofold: the Museum wins by acquiring helping hands and the senior wins by earning some income, learning a new skill, or sharpening up an old skill.

Seniors, Inc. is a non-profit organization, started by Chico Martinez in Trinidad more than 16 years ago. It is funded by the Dept. of Labor and State of Colorado with the express purpose of training seniors who might want to move on and get hired as permanent employees. The mission statement of Seniors Inc., is, "Helping people maximize their personal independence."

To qualify, the senior must be age 55 or over, have an income not exceeding \$13,530 for a single, or \$18,213 for a married individual. The pay is minimum wage. The person can work up to 20 hours a week. There is no affect on the seniors Medicare, Social

Security, or any other Social Services they may be receiving. In other words, they will not be penalized for earning a little income. The Museum opens its doors May 1, and continues through September, so the jobs are seasonal. If you are interested, simply call Seniors, Inc. at 846-4414, ask for Nina Shain, Senior Community Service Employment Program/Manager. Nina will take care of all the details. Seniors Inc. is providing such a valuable service to the community that the Mitchell Museum Directors, Joanie and Paula, hope the residents of Trinidad will take advantage of this great new partnership. See you at the Mitch!

Lathrop State Park

Reservations are now being accepted for summer 2010

WALSENBURG – Lathrop State Park is now accepting camping reservations for the summer 2010 season. During the winter, Martin Lake was drained to make repairs on the dam. John Brandstatter, manager of Lathrop State Park, said the work is progressing on schedule and the lake will re-fill to the usual level for water recreation by mid-May. Visitors may call the park at (719) 738-2376 or

visit the Web site: <http://parks.state.co.us/Parks/lathrop>, for information. Lathrop State Park offers 82 electric sites and 21 basic sites. Campers can also enjoy boating, fishing, water-skiing, canoeing, and a golf course at the park. Camping reservations can be made through the Web site or calling (800) 678-2267.

Attracting nearly 12 million visitors per year, Colorado's 42 State Parks are a vital cornerstone of Colorado's economy and quality of life. Colorado State Parks encompass 224,531 land and water acres, offering some of the best outdoor recre-

ation destinations in the state. Colorado State Parks is a leader in providing opportunities for outdoor recreation, protecting the state's favorite landscapes, teaching generations about nature and partnering with communities.

Colorado State Parks also manage more than 4,000 campsites, and 57 cabins and yurts.

For more information on Colorado State Parks or to purchase an annual pass online, visit www.colorado.gov/parks.

Raton skateboard park sought

At Super Save in Raton on a recent Saturday, local residents signed a petition in favor of bringing a skateboard park to Raton.

On hand were two young skaters who look forward to having a place where they can practice their sport without worry of prosecution. Minding the petition table was Carl Patty, chairman of the North East New Mexico Skate Association (NENMSA).

The petition drive is being conducted to raise awareness and support for having a local skate park in Raton. The group is seeking funding through donations from the public, as well as grants from the Tony Hawk Foundation, Helping Hands, and several other organizations. Two major bids for grants have been lost due to a lack of evidence of community and city support.

NENMSA needs to provide proof of community support in the way of letters written to the granters expressing the need for the park. Studies have shown that communities with highly rated skate parks see a boost in tourism and revenue as vacations are



Photo courtesy of Betty Daybread

Supporters sign a petition at Super Save in Raton during a petition drive organized by the North East New Mexico Skate Association (NENMSA) to begin the process of raising funds to build a local skateboard park.

planned specifically to follow the skateboard circuit. There will be petitions placed around Raton and

more petition drives to gather the community's support. For more information on the drive and on the

project, contact Patty at (505) 603-8823.

CORRECTION

The following is the introduction that should have run with "What's Cooking" on Wednesday, February 10:

Sweets for the Sweet...

Happy Valentine's Day everybody! This is the special day we celebrate with sweets. It is the day we set aside, not only to tell our sweethearts we love them, but to include a token as well, a small, caring memento of the day.

What else could we serve our sweethearts on Valentine's Day? Maybe you'll want to treat your beloveds with a special surprise packed in their lunches, or you might want to plan a beautiful, romantic, candlelight dinner just for two.

You could bake a bunch of brownies or cupcakes and take them to your darling's work or school.

Everyone loves that. However you choose to celebrate this day, February 14th stands as a tribute, the world over, to the notion that love conquers all. And for that I say, "Hooray for love!"



Rehabilitation Department – Mt. San Rafael Hospital Rehabilitation Department is committed to provide quality patient care, restore patient function, and improve quality of life. Services for inpatient and outpatient include:

- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy



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