



Juan Felipe Herrera

Juan Felipe Herrera is the first Latino to serve as United States Poet Laureate. He was appointed in 2015. As laureate, he launched the project “La Casa de Colores,” which invited citizens to contribute to an epic poem.

The child of migrant farm workers, Herrera is a leading voice about the Mexican American and indigenous experience. He is the author of 28 books of poetry, young adult novels and children’s collections, including “Crashboomlove,” a young adult novel in verse for which he won an Américas Award. As laureate Herrera has celebrated in verse the work of United Farm Workers co-founder Dolores Huerta as part of a Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery exhibition.



A chancellor for the Academy of American Poets, and a winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award and the International Latino Book Award, Herrera received fellowships and grants from the Breadloaf Writers’ Conference, the California Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts. He earned degrees at UCLA, Stanford University and the University of Iowa.

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