

CCNY'S 54TH ANNUAL POETRY FESTIVAL

The Division of Humanities and the Arts

**Co-promotional sponsor:
Poets & Writers**

**FRIDAY, MAY 1st, 2026
10:30 AM TO 5:00 PM**

**Featured Guest Poet:
KAY POEMA**

READINGS:

**ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS
10:30 AM – NOON**

**HIGH SCHOOL POETRY WINNERS
NOON - 1:30 PM**

GUEST OF HONOR:

Kay Poema

1:30 PM - 2:00 PM

**CCNY ENGLISH STUDENTS & INVITED GUESTS
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**AARON DAVIS HALL
133RD STREET AT CONVENT AVENUE**

CONTACT:

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<http://www.ccny.cuny.edu/poetry>

I am someone's Asian baby
brought into this world by parents
who brought their lives and their families
to the New World –
new seeds sprouting
across the sea, but
the apple doesn't fall far from the tree.
I am someone's Asian baby
wrapped in a blanket
the color of fall –
brilliant shades of red and yellow –
the moment I left the womb.
Bathed in golden sunlight,
red rosy cheeks,
they all cooed and giggled
as they looked down at me.

~from "A Baby with Blood the Color of Fall"
By Michelle Zhong, 1st Place High School Winner, 2025, Hunter College High School

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