The UC Santa Cruz Arts Division presents

**Eye Music: American Sign Language Poetry and Performance Festival**
November 12–15, 2014
Events at UC Santa Cruz plus the Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History (MAH)
online  http://ASLfestival.ucsc.edu

Nationally acclaimed Deaf poets and performing artists will visit UC Santa Cruz in mid-November for **Eye Music**, a 4-day festival of poetry created and performed in American Sign Language (ASL). The festival will feature sign poetry, storytelling, and performance by some of the most accomplished practitioners of ASL performance.

The **Eye Music Festival** is designed for all audiences: all presentations will be interpreted and are accessible to Deaf and non-Deaf audiences.

The festival has been curated by **UCSC Professor of Music Larry Polansky** who has worked with some of the best-known poets, performers, and educators in the ASL world for a number of years. As a musician and a composer, Polansky has always been fascinated by the relationship between sound and meaning. "While music may be said to be sound without meaning, ASL is the opposite, meaning without sound," Polansky says.

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**Festival Highlights**

**Flying Words Project**, an American Sign Language poetry duo comprised of Deaf poet **Peter Cook** and hearing co-author **Kenny Lerner**. Cook and Lerner create and perform a moving tapestry from poems written in ASL which is uniquely accessible to both hearing and deaf audiences.

The Museum of Art and History in Santa Cruz (MAH) will host **Eye Music at the MAH**. It's an evening jam-packed with ASL performance featuring Flying Words Project as well as a number of educators and performers from around the country including Karen Christie, Shira Grabelsky, Tom Holcomb, Ella Lentz, and Patrick Graybill. Performance hosted by JAC, a nationally known mistress of ceremonies, performer, and motivational speaker.

The "grandfather of ASL poetry" **Patrick Graybill** appears in an afternoon presentation as part of the Living Writers Series at UCSC, performing some of his
poems and giving an interpreted Q&A with the audience. Born in 1939, Graybill and four of his six siblings were born Deaf. He graduated from Gallaudet College with a bachelor’s degree in English in 1963 and a master’s degree in education in 1964. Graybill was a member of the National Theater of the Deaf and served as an actor, performer, and former professor at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf.

Rosa Lee will perform at a special house concert in Santa Cruz. She is a performance artist known mostly for her YouTube ASL music videos, her work as a solo performer of the Rosa Lee Show, and as a lead actress in ASL Films' feature film, Versa Effect. Since 1993, Rosa Lee has been involved with several stage productions, performance troupes, and has appeared in television, videos, DVDs, and CD-ROMs as an actress, sign model, and a director. She co-founded an e-magazine for the signing community called "KISSFIST" and is a Managing Editor as well. She currently works as an ASL teacher at California School for the Deaf in Fremont.

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Festival OVERVIEW

Wednesday, Nov. 12 — Rosa Lee, performance artist
House concert in private home in Santa Cruz
7:30 pm
reservations required: please email ASLfestival@ucsc.edu
$20 suggested donation
Seating is limited.

Thursday, Nov. 13 — Patrick Graybill, actor and performer
Humanities Lecture Hall
Cowell College, UCSC
4:00 pm
Seating is limited.
parking $4

Friday, Nov. 14 — Eye Music at the MAH
Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History
7:30 pm

Saturday, Nov. 15 — Afternoon Panel Discussions
1:00 pm — The Creation and Translation of ASL Poetry
Panel moderated by Tom Holcomb (with Patrick Graybill and others)
3:00 pm — Artivism
Panel moderated by Karen Christie (with Ella Lentz, Peter Cook, and others)
Panels take place at Digital Arts Research Center (DARC), UCSC
parking $4

**Saturday, Nov. 15 — Flying Words Project: Peter Cook & Kenny Lerner**
Digital Arts Research Center (DARC), UCSC
Doors will open at 7:00pm, performance starts at 7:30pm.
Seating is limited.
parking $4

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**Eye Music is made possible with support from:**
Porter College Hitchcock Poetry Fund, UCSC
Division of the Arts, UCSC
Arts Dean’s Fund for Excellence, UCSC
Museum of Art and History, Santa Cruz
Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, UCSC
Institute for Humanities Research, UCSC
Department of Linguistics, UCSC

All events except the Thursday house concert are **free and open to the public**.
Seating is limited.
Doors will open 30 minutes before performance.
UCSC parking $4

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