Wednesday Night ASL poetry performance/presentations at the Hood Museum

7 p.m
Free and open to the public. Interpreted.

April 6: Patrick Graybill
May 11: Dennis Cokely
May 18: Peter Cook
May 25: Monique Holt

Part of Dartmouth College Course 2
ASL Poetry and Performance in Translation
Spring, 2011
Instructor: Larry Polansky, with Mary Essex (Beginning ASL)
(with several Deaf poets and scholars as guest faculty)

With support from the Mellon Foundation, the Dartmouth College Dean of Faculty Office, the Dartmouth College College Course Committee, and the Leslie Center for the Humanities

All performances/presentations will be interpreted, and accessible to the Deaf and Hearing communities. Each will last about an hour, and include time for questions.
About the presenters

Patrick Graybill is one of the foremost literary and artistic figures in the Deaf community since his early days with the National Theater for the Deaf. He is renowned as a brilliant translator (from English to ASL), scholar of ASL, and poet. Through his large body of work, and his long tenure as a teacher at the National Technical Institute of the Deaf (in Rochester, NY), Graybill has been a major influence on generations of Deaf performers.

Dennis Cokely is one of the pre-eminent interpreters and educators of ASL and interpreting in the country, as well as a widely published scholar. The Director of the ASL Program and the Chair of the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures at Northeastern University, he is internationally known as a consultant and lecturer. Cokely was one of the co-founders of Sign Media Inc. which “published”, on video, many of the important ASL poets, and over 350 over 350 videotape programs focusing on American Sign Language, Deaf Culture, and Interpreter Education. He has been the interpreter for many great artists, and several U.S Presidents.

Peter Cook is perhaps the most well-known, and certainly one of the most artistically experimental, and vibrant ASL poets and storytellers. Both in his work with the Flying Words Project (who performed here at Dartmouth in the fall, to a huge and enthusiastic audience), and on his own, Cook is the leading and perhaps most active figure in the “second generation” of ASL poets, those whose work emerged from the so-called “Rochester poetry movement”. While his work emanates from the traditional Deaf-oriented themes of poets like Clayton Valli, Patrick Graybill, and Ella Lentz, Cook integrates political, social, comedic, and other more universal issues, while remaining strongly rooted in the Deaf community.

Monique Holt is a leading figure in Deaf performance art. A dancer, poet, theater director, teacher, and interpreter, Holt (who lives in Washington, D.C) has both taught theater at Galladuet, and collaborated with a great many important Deaf and hearing artists.