

P O E T R Y



F O U N D A T I O N

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**POETRY FOUNDATION PRESENTS
FIRST-EVER JOINT READING
BY U.S. AND U.K. CHILDREN'S POETS LAUREATE**

CHICAGO—The Poetry Foundation is pleased to announce that it will sponsor a joint poetry reading by Jack Prelutsky, America's first Children's Poet Laureate, and Michael Rosen, Children's Laureate of the United Kingdom. The event marks the first time two sitting U.S. and U.K. Children's Poets Laureate will share a stage and is to take place on May 20 at the TASIS school, an American school attended by international students outside London.

In addition to the appearance with Rosen, Prelutsky will give a reading at the ACS Egham International School at Surrey on May 13, and will conduct several small class readings and poetry workshops at TASIS from May 14 to 19.

Findings from the Poetry Foundation's recent research study—*Poetry in America*—demonstrate that a lifelong love for poetry is most likely to result if cultivated early in childhood and reinforced thereafter. Prelutsky's and Rosen's popularity reflects a growing awareness that children have a natural receptivity to poetry and are an appreciative audience, especially when poems are written specifically for them.

Jack Prelutsky is the beloved author of more than 35 books of verse and the editor of several poetry anthologies. He was appointed to a two-year term as Children's Poet Laureate: Consultant in Children's Poetry to the Poetry Foundation in 2006. His books have combined to sell well over a million copies, and his work has been translated into several languages. His anthology, *The Random House Book of Poetry for Children*, is a perennial favorite of librarians. Prelutsky's recent collections of poetry include *Behold the Bold Umbrellaphant and Other Poems*, *ME I AM!*, and *Good Sports: Rhymes About Running, Jumping, Throwing, and More*.

Michael Rosen is a best-selling author of poetry as well as a BBC broadcaster. He published his first book of children's poetry, *Mind Your Own Business*, in 1974, and his many collections include *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, chosen as the 1990 Smarties Best Children's Book of the Year; *Mustard, Custard, Grumble Belly, and Gravy*; *Michael Rosen's Sad Book*; and, most

recently, *Bear in the Cave*. He is the U.K. Children's Laureate for 2007–2009 and the winner of the Eleanor Farjeon Award for service to children's literature.

About the Poetry Foundation

The Poetry Foundation, publisher of *Poetry* magazine and one of the largest literary organizations in the world, exists to discover and celebrate the best poetry and to place it before the largest possible audience. The Poetry Foundation seeks to be a leader in shaping a receptive climate for poetry by developing new audiences, creating new avenues for delivery, and encouraging new kinds of poetry through innovative literary prizes and programs.

For more information, please visit www.poetryfoundation.org.