

Sparking Memories since 2004

- **10,000** people living with dementia served.
- **2,000** copies of Sparking Memories: The Alzheimer's Poetry Project Anthology distributed.
- **1,500** health care workers and family members trained in using poetry with dementia.
- **300** programming sessions at 120 facilities .
- **17 States** where programming has taken place: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Washington DC, and Wisconsin.
- **Partnerships**
Greensboro Public Library, Greensboro, NC
Latino Geriatric Center, Milwaukee, WI
New Mexico Literary Arts, Santa Fe, NM
Northern Arizona Poets, Sedona, AZ
Red Hen Press, Los Angeles, CA
Sauk County Writer's Group Baraboo, WI
Young Chicago Authors, Chicago, IL
- **National Endowment for the Arts** listed the APP as a "best practice" for the NEA Aging and the Arts Initiative. APP was one of twenty groups in the nation to receive this distinction.
- **Media Coverage**
The APP has been featured on NBC's "Today" show, NPR's "Weekend Edition", Voice of America, New Zealand National Radio, and German Public Radio. These stories reached **over 20 million people** and helped to keep the issue of quality innovative care for people living with Alzheimer's disease in the public's mind.

"The APP helps with more than memory; your program also promotes participants' self esteem and social skills.

— Lesley Halliday, Isabella Geriatric, New York City

Alzheimer's Poetry Project

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Poetry Session in Santa Fe, New Mexico

"Thank you so much for coming. We need people like you to come here. It's not that we're not happy. This is a good place. It's just that we need more."

— Wilma from a residence in Oklahoma

The APP Launches in Germany

In September of 2009 Glazner provided training for 9 German poets and 3 healthcare workers in using poetry to connect with people living with dementia. Poetry sessions took place in Berlin and Marburg. German poems were identified for the project, training material translated and the launch received press coverage and was the subject of a German Public Radio show. The Alzheimer's Association of Germany has invited the poets to speak at their 2010 conference. The launch has led the U.S. Embassy in Berlin to fund a pilot project in 2010. You can read more about the launch at:

<http://www.alzpoetry.com/GermanLanguageProgramming/>

Yahoo Employee Grant

Generous funding from the Yahoo Employee Foundation has allowed the APP to expand programming in Arizona, California, Illinois, New Mexico and New York. This funding will help the APP to serve an additional 3,500 people.

Helen Bader Grant

This funding has allowed for 12 poets to be trained in Wisconsin. Through a partnership with The Latino Geriatric Center in Milwaukee we are offering Spanish language programming. The group is writing poems inspired by *Dichos*, or wisdom sayings. In Baraboo, the home town of the Ringling Brothers of circus fame, we have written a poem based on people's memories of the circus parades that took place there at the end of each season. You can read the poems at : www.alzpoetry.com



Seniors living with dementia respond to poetry at the Bowery Poetry Club



Student poets after a session in New York City

"Working with the Alzheimer's people made me think how poetry can help people remember things. At first it was scary, but after I got used to them, it was fun, but it also made me cry."

— Brittany Whitmore, age 16

Founded in 2004 by poet Gary Glazner, the Alzheimer's Poetry Project is dedicated to the cultivation of the creativity of people living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia. We receive public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, NY Senator Daniel Squadron, and NYC Councilman Alan Gerson. In addition, our funders include: New Mexico State Arts, which are made possible by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Helen Bader Foundation, the Friedman Foundation, the Puffin Foundation, U.S. Embassy Berlin, the Yahoo Employee Foundation and many individual donors.

APP is a project of Bowery Arts & Science, the non-profit wing of the Bowery Poetry Club.