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Cal Poly Creative Writers to Read at 'Byzantium' Celebration May 27

SAN LUIS OBISPO — Cal Poly's English Department will hold a reading and celebration in honor of the release of the 24th edition of the department's literary annual, "Byzantium," Tuesday, May 27, at Sally Loo's Café in San Luis Obispo.

"Byzantium," an award-winning publication, is crafted entirely by undergraduate students. Editors Carly Demetre and Jenna Korver collaborated with student art director Bryn Hobson to produce this year's edition.

The magazine's poems and stories are chosen through Cal Poly's annual Al Landwehr Creative Writing Contest, to which undergraduate and graduate students from all majors submit their work. Selected award recipients will read from their pieces at the event.

Winners of the 2014 Al Landwehr Creative Writing Contest selected for publication in "Byzantium" include:

- Erica London - first place, poetry
- Lauren Henley - second place, poetry
- Kara Erickson - third place, poetry
- MacKenzie Soldan - first place, fiction
- Rhiannon Kelly - second place, fiction
- Kaye Richardson - third place, fiction
- Alison Rogge - editors' choices, poetry
- Eli Williams - editors' choices, poetry
- Tim Atwood - editors' choices, poetry
- Frances Wiese - editors' choices, fiction
- Jonathan Maule - editors' choices, fiction
- Alicia Freeman - editors' choices, fiction

"For nearly a quarter of a century the 'Byzantium' reading has been a headline event for student writers, their parents and friends," said English Professor and "Byzantium" faculty advisor Kevin Clark. "We hope anyone interested in writing will drop in, buy a cup of coffee, and hear some of the best young writers California produces."

Free copies of the publication will be available at the event and in select locations around campus.

The event will begin at 6 p.m. at Sally Loo's Café, located at 1804 Osos St., near the train station.

About the Cal Poly English Department

Cal Poly's English Department offers students an innovative and collaborative working environment for undergraduate and graduate majors. Students are introduced to the fundamentals of literary studies and engage with British and American literature throughout their time on campus, which provides a solid foundation for graduate, law or business school. The department produces several publications each year that showcase student writing, including "Byzantium: A Literary Annual" and "Fresh Voices."

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