

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Veterans For Peace To Host 2011 Peace Poetry Celebration**

*High School Poets To Be Honored, Published in Anthology*

April 25 – Humboldt, CA – Dozens of Humboldt high school students have submitted their poems about peace, the abolition of war, hate or violence, or peacemaking in our communities, and have been invited to read their works at the 2011 Peace Poetry Celebration hosted by Veterans For Peace Chapter 56 at 7pm on May 6 at the Unitarian Universalists' Meeting Hall, 23 Fellowship Way in Bayside. The event is free and open to the public.

Cash prizes will be awarded to five poets, and all poems submitted will be published in the *Redwood Coast Peace Poetry Anthology*. Poets will receive a free copy of the *Anthology*, which will also be made available for sale after the event through VFP Chapter 56. Copies will also be donated to local schools and libraries.

College of the Redwoods Sociology Professor Nezzie Wade will emcee the event. "I'm excited to do this because I'm a strong supporter of VFP and peace in general," said Wade. "I think it is wonderful they're doing this poetry contest, and especially that they've started with the high school population. I'm also honored in so many ways to have gotten some of my former students involved as judges in this contest."

The panel of judges includes local poets Jerry Martien and Joe Shermis, emeritus College of the Redwoods English Professor Pat McCutcheon, poet and CR English Professor David Holper, retired English teacher Allen Berger, and local actress and activist Lynn Kerman.

The Redwood Coast Peace Poetry Contest is sponsored by Humboldt Bay Chapter 56 of Veterans For Peace, Humboldt Unitarian Universalists Fellowship, and the Humboldt Chapter of the Buddhist Peace.

For more information, see [www.vfp56.org](http://www.vfp56.org) or contact Jon Reisdorf at (707) 822-4595 or [jonreisdorf@hotmail.com](mailto:jonreisdorf@hotmail.com); or Carl Stancil at (707) 616-6405 or [carlstancil@gmail.com](mailto:carlstancil@gmail.com).