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IGNITE ANIMER ANIMAR
TORONTO 2015... Pan Am/Parapan Am

The Poetry of Sports & the Sport of Poetry

POET-TREE 2015

Edited by Maria L. Figueredo

THE POET-TREE 2015 PROJECT

The creation of the York University TORONTO 2015 Pan / Parapan Am Poet-Tree installation, an IGNITE community partner of the Games, welcomed York University members and those of the greater community, including international authors across the Americas, to send in original poems or verses of their favourite poet from one of the 41 represented countries competing in the Toronto 2015 Pan / Parapan American Games. Each sent poem or name of poet was entered to win a monthly prize (from February to August 2015). Poems could be in any of the languages spoken in the 41 countries, to feature sports and poetry in dialogue during this largest multisport international gathering in Canada to date.

The “Poet-Tree” project’s iterations of creative and photo captures of real life installations at various locations, websites, or in physical sculptural and movement formats, sought to bring together poetry and voices from across the diverse regions of the Americas in a spatial depiction of these interactions on York University’s campus. This university posits itself as a leader in sustaining and strengthening partnerships across the Americas and served the Games as host venue on its Keele Campus for the Athletics and Tennis matches of the Pan American Games (July 10-26), as well as the opening ceremonies of the Parapan Am Games (August 7-15). (panam2015.info.yorku.ca/).



María L. Figueredo, born in Montevideo, Uruguay, has lived in Canada since she was seven years old. Dr. Figueredo (PhD, University of Toronto 1999) is Associate Professor in Spanish at York University in Canada, and is a member of the Center for Research in Latin America and the Caribbean. She has served as Coordinator of the Spanish and Portuguese Studies Section, and as Undergraduate Program Director, Languages and Literatures, in the Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics. She teaches courses in Spanish and Latin American literature, and is a Fellow at Massey College, University of Toronto. She has published in the area of literature and music, literary theory, and Latin American culture in specialized publications. Her first book, *Poesía y canto popular: Su convergencia en el siglo XX. Uruguay, 1960-1985* (Linardi y Risso, 2005), studies the socio-cultural process of poetry that is set to music at particular times in the history of Latin America. She has also studied music as a subtext in women’s prose, and music in the 20th century Latin American novel. Her current research is focused on e-poetry and in performativity in literature. Her poetry has been published in *Jones Av. V/2* and in a compact disc compilation, *The Sound of Poetry (2005)*, released by the International Society of Poets, organization that awarded her poem the Editors’ Choice Award in Poetry in that year. Four of her poems appeared in Spanish/English translation in the first trilingual anthology of Hispano-Canadians writers and artists, *ANTARES 2009: Anthology of Hispanic-Canadian Literary and Artistic Creativity* (2009), and another was published in *Oriflama* (Spain, 2012).