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For Immediate Release

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U.S. Poet Laureate Arthur Sze to Give Public Reading at Colorado College

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.—March 17, 2026—As part of its Visiting Writer Series, Colorado College will host a reading with [Arthur Sze, the 25th Poet Laureate of the United States](#), and the first Asian American to hold the office, on Thursday, March 26. The reading begins at 7 p.m. in Richard F. Celeste Theatre, inside the [Edith Kinney Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center](#).

Arthur Sze is a poet, translator, and editor. He is the author of 12 poetry collections, of which his collection *Sight Lines* won the 2019 National Book Award for Poetry, and *The Glass Constellation: New and Collected Poems* received the National Book Foundation's Science + Literature Award. His most recent work is *Into the Hush*.

The Library of Congress appointed Sze Poet Laureate for 2025-26 in September. Acting Librarian of Congress Robert Randolph Newlen said Sze's poetry is "distinctly American in its focus on the landscapes of the Southwest, where he has lived for many years, as well as in its great formal innovation. Like Emily Dickinson and Walt Whitman, Sze forges something new from a range of traditions and influences—and the result is a poetry that moves freely throughout time and space."

The son of Chinese immigrants, Sze left MIT as a sophomore to pursue his dream of becoming a poet. He told the Library of Congress he is honored by the recognition.

"It's a recognition that belongs to teachers, librarians, editors, poets, readers—everyone who works tirelessly on behalf of poetry," Sze said. "As laureate, I feel a great responsibility to promote the ways poetry, especially poetry in translation, can impact our daily lives. We live in such a fast-paced world: poetry helps us slow down, deepen our attention, connect and live more fully."

Sze plans to focus on translating poetry originally written in other languages. The [Visiting Writers Series](#) is sponsored by the Colorado College Department of English with the support of the MacLean Visiting Writers Endowment. All events are free and open to the public. Following the reading, there will be a book signing and reception with coffee and dessert in Cornerstone Main Space.

About Colorado College

Colorado College is a nationally prominent, four-year liberal arts institution in Colorado Springs, Colorado, founded in 1874. Known for its innovative Block Plan, students take one class at a time in intensive 3½-week segments, allowing for deep focus and engagement in and beyond the classroom. With approximately 2,200 undergraduates, the College offers 42 majors, 30 department minors, and 24 thematic minors, as well as Master of Arts in Teaching. Colorado College holds the Research Colleges and Universities designation from Carnegie and ACE and is consistently recognized as a top Fulbright and Peace Corps producing institution. A leader in sustainability, the College was the first in the Rocky Mountain Region and eighth in the nation to achieve carbon neutrality. For more information, visit www.coloradocollege.edu.

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