

JAN 10 2014

Poetry Center  
1508 E. Helen Street  
P.O. Box 210150  
Tucson, AZ 85721-0150  
Tel: (520) 626-3765  
Fax: (520) 621-5566  
poetry@u.arizona.edu  
http://poetry.arizona.edu

January 8th, 2014

Richard Elías  
Pima County Supervisor, District 5  
11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Admin Bldg.  
130 W. Congress St.  
Tucson, AZ 85701-1317

Dear Mr. Elías,

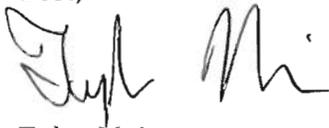
I'm writing to follow up on a recent conversation you had with Poetry Center Development Committee Members Jim Hannley and Jim Walsh, regarding our annual Corrido contest and program. This year, we've had over 400 submissions, and we are already in the process of narrowing the pool of submissions down to a set of finalists for the judge. Three winners will be selected and awarded cash prizes; the winning corridos will also be set to music with local musicians and performed at our annual award ceremony at the Poetry Center, to be held this year at 10am on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Please anticipate a forthcoming invitation to this event!

Since 2000, the University of Arizona Poetry Center has offered the Bilingual Corrido Contest to engage Arizona high school students with our state's Hispanic heritage and with a folk form that reflects our unique border geography.

We are requesting \$500 in support of this program, to be used to support fees for the submission screeners and final judge, and to offset the expenses of the local musicians we contract with to perform the winning corridos during the award celebration.

Please do not hesitate to be in touch with me if I can provide any further details. I'm including a signed broadside from Arizona's inaugural Poet Laureate Alberto Ríos and a commemorative CD, entitled *A Decade of Young Corridistas*.

Best,



Tyler Meier  
Executive Director  
University of Arizona Poetry Center  
1508 E. Helen St.  
Tucson, AZ 85721-0150

Thank you for your support!





THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA POETRY CENTER



# CORRIDO



## 2014 CONTEST

### SPONSORSHIP

**The University of Arizona Poetry Center is seeking sponsorship of its annual statewide Bilingual Corrido Contest for high school students. Your support promotes creative thinking and civic engagement of youth in our community.**

#### Why Corrido?

Since 2000 the University of Arizona Poetry Center has offered a Bilingual Corrido Contest to engage Arizona high school students with our state's Hispanic heritage and to provide them with a meaningful vehicle for self-expression. The corrido is a musical-poetic form with a significant history along the U.S.-Mexico border and in the 19th century served to convey news from one community to another. Teaching the corrido and recognizing young practitioners helps to preserve the unique literary histories of our region and gives voice to promising writers.

The contest reaches 50 high schools throughout the state of Arizona and the Poetry Center receives between 300 and 500 entries per year. Since 2000, 42 students have won this contest; and the majority of them completed high school and went on to pursue higher education.

#### The Contest

Contest takes place in the fall and early winter of each year (deadline mid-December). The Poetry Center solicits submissions, reviews entries and forwards them to the contest judge. Past judges have included Linda Ronstadt, UA College of Science Dean Joaquin Ruiz, writers Luis Alberto Urrea and Alberto Ríos, journalist Ernesto Portillo and others. Three cash prizes (first, second, and third) are awarded for winning poems (lyrics) in Spanish or English. Honorable mention recognition is also given to 47 students.

Winning students work with graduate student musicians from the University of Arizona School of Music to set their lyrics to music, as well as with a translator to fully experience the revision process. A spring public awards ceremony for students, teachers, friends and family is held at the University of Arizona Poetry Center, where winning corridos are read and performed.

#### Resources

The Poetry Center has developed online curricula which provides social and historical context for the corrido, including the basic tenets of writing a poem. These lessons are available through the Poetry Center's website at [poetry.arizona.edu](http://poetry.arizona.edu). Also available online is *A Decade of Young Corridistas*, an anthology with CD showcasing prize winning corridos from 2000 to 2011.

#### Sponsorship

Sponsors are invited to a private reception prior to the awards ceremony to meet and engage with the winners and their families. All sponsors are acknowledged on the Poetry Center's website and on printed marketing materials. Sponsors also receive a framed broadside of the first place corrido poem in Spanish and English.

#### Sponsorship Levels:

**\$1,000** – supports the hard working students who achieve first, second and third contest prizes (first prize \$500, second prize \$300, and third prize \$200).

**\$1,500** – supports the rewarding opportunity for entrants to bring their corridos to life with UA Music Students. These musical compositions are performed at the awards ceremony.

**\$2,500** – supports and honors all the students and their creativity at the spring awards ceremony. More than 100 students and their families and community members gather to celebrate this cultural art form and the brilliant achievements of each student.

**\$5,000** – Be a champion of this incredible event that brings students, their heritage, and the community together in poetic expression. Sponsors are recognized for their generosity in the creation, promotion, and content of Corrido throughout the entire year.

**For more information, please contact Renee Angler, Program Coordinator, Senior, at the UA Poetry Center: [angler@email.arizona.edu](mailto:angler@email.arizona.edu) or 520-626-9625.**



College  
of  
Humanities



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
POETRY CENTER

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA POETRY CENTER

# CORRIDO

## 2014 CONTEST

**Submit your creative work!**

**GRADES 9-12**

**All Arizona high school students are eligible.**

To enter, send a completed application form and two copies of your original corrido. Corridos can be written in either Spanish or English. You do not need to provide music for the corrido. Winning corridos will be performed by a professional musician at the contest awards ceremony in April.

Guidelines and application forms can be found online at <http://poetry.arizona.edu>

Entries may be submitted online, by mail, or in person to:

The UA Poetry Center / Corrido Contest  
1508 E. Helen Street / Tucson, AZ 85721

**DEADLINE: December 2, 2013 by 5 p.m.**

**Abierto a estudiantes de high-school de**

**9 A 12 GRADOS**

Para participar, llena for completo y envía la forma de solicitud junto con dos copias del corrido de tu autoría. Los corridos pueden estar escritos en inglés o español. No necesitas componer la música. Los corridos ganadores serán interpretados por músicos profesionales durante la ceremonia de premiación del concurso en abril.

Las bases de la convocatoria y las formas de solicitud están disponibles en línea en:

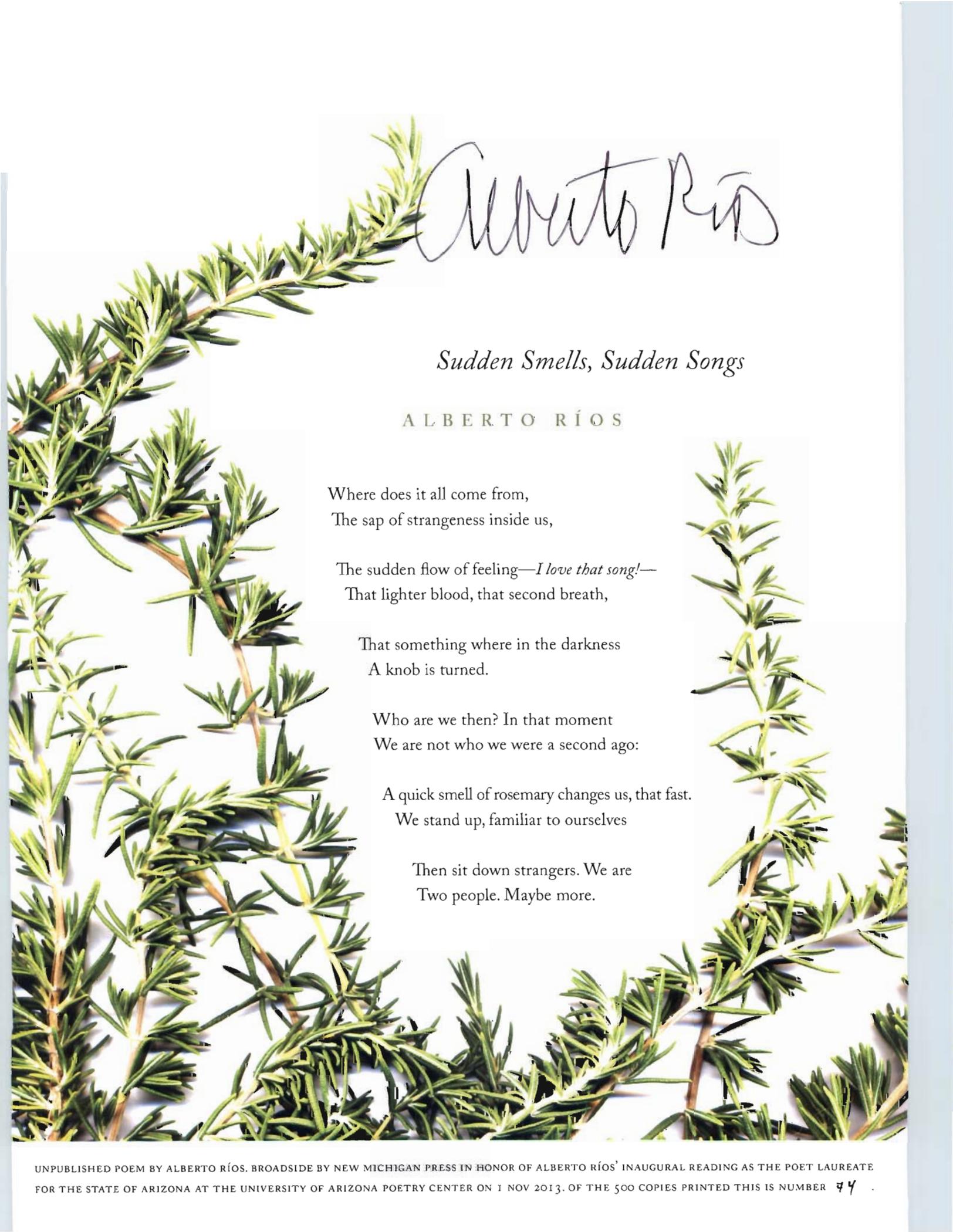
<http://poetry.arizona.edu>

Las participaciones pueden entregarse en línea o en persona o por correo:

The UA Poetry Center / Concurso de corrido  
1508 E. Helen Street / Tucson, AZ 85721

**FECHA LÍMITE: Diciembre 2 de 2013  
Antes de las 5 p.m.**

**BILINGUAL**



Alberto Ríos

*Sudden Smells, Sudden Songs*

ALBERTO RÍOS

Where does it all come from,  
The sap of strangeness inside us,

The sudden flow of feeling—*I love that song!*—  
That lighter blood, that second breath,

That something where in the darkness  
A knob is turned.

Who are we then? In that moment  
We are not who we were a second ago:

A quick smell of rosemary changes us, that fast.  
We stand up, familiar to ourselves

Then sit down strangers. We are  
Two people. Maybe more.