

# THE BEAR RIVER Writers' Conference

University of Michigan  
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# THE BEAR RIVER Writers' Conference

[www.lsa.umich.edu/bearriver](http://www.lsa.umich.edu/bearriver)

## June 3 - 7, 2010

JANE HIRSHFIELD is the author of six collections of poetry, including *After* which was named a "Best Book of 2006" by *The Washington Post*, and *Given Sugar, Given Salt* (finalist for the 2001 National Book Critics Circle Award), as well as a now-classic book of essays, *Nine Gates: Entering the Mind of Poetry*. Hirshfield's other honors include The Poetry Center Book Award, fellowships from the Guggenheim and Rockefeller foundations, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Academy of American Poets. Her work appears in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, and *The Nation*, among others.

### Workshop Description: *Inviting Unforeseeable Energies into the Poem*

The cultivation of a permeable, fierce, and free attention will be the taproot of this time together. In writing new poems, and in reading work by others, we will bring an open, intimate, and tenacious looking to words, worlds, and the craft-informed relationship between them. The workshop sessions will include ideas for generating poetic "starts" and investigating the elements of craft that underlie poetry's power. Mystery, surprise, and generosity are part of any genuinely creative act. These are ungovernable and ultimately undomesticable forces, yet they too can be invited, welcomed.



Special Guest/Poetry  
**JANE HIRSHFIELD**

*Find Your Natural Inspiration*

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