

Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer

Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer lives with her husband and two children in Placerville, Colorado, on the banks of the wild and undammed San Miguel River. She served as San Miguel County's first poet laureate (2007-2011) and as Western Slope Poet Laureate (2015-2017) and was a finalist for Colorado Poet Laureate in 2019.

Devoted to helping others explore their creative potential, Rosemerry is the co-host of *Emerging Form*, a podcast on creative process (with Christie Aschwanden), co-director of Telluride's Talking Gourds Poetry Club (with Art Goodtimes), co-host of Stubborn Praise Poetry Programs (with James Crews) and co-founder of Secret Agents of Change (with Sherry Richert Belul). She also directed the Telluride Writers Guild for ten years.

She teaches and performs poetry for addiction recovery programs, hospice, mindfulness retreats, women's retreats, teachers and more. Past clients include Camp Coca Cola, Craig Hospital, Business & Professional Women, Deepak Chopra, Think 360, Ah Haa School for the Arts, Desert Dharma, Wilkinson Public Library, Telluride Literary Burlesque and Colorado Mesa State University.

She performs as a storyteller, including shows in Aspen at the Wheeler Opera House, at the Taos Storytelling Festival and the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, TN. Her TEDx talk explores changing our outdated metaphors.

She believes in the power of practice and has been writing a poem a day since 2006. Her daily poems can be found at <https://ahundredfallingveils.com/>. Favorite themes in her poems include parenting, gardening, the natural world, love, science, thriving/failure and daily life.

She has 12 collections of poetry, and her work has appeared in *O Magazine*, *A Prairie Home Companion*, *PBS News Hour*, Ted Kooser's *American Life in Poetry*, on fences, in back alleys and on hundreds of river rocks she leaves around town. Her poems have been used for choral works by composers Paul Fowler and Jeffrey Nytch and performed by the Ars Nova Singers. Her most recent collection, *Hush*, won the Halcyon prize. *Naked for Tea* was a finalist for the Able Muse Book Award. Other books include *Even Now*, *The Miracle Already Happening*, *The Less I Hold* and *If You Listen*, a finalist for the Colorado Book Award. She's won the Fischer Prize, *Rattle's* Ekphrastic Challenge (thrice), the Dwell Press Solstice Prize, the Writer's Studio Literary Contest (twice), The Blackberry Peach Prize, and has three nominations for a Pushcart Prize.

Since 1994, she's been singing with Telluride's 8-member female acapella group Heartbeat, performing jazz, folk, bluegrass and pop songs around the Four Corners region. Favorite activities: Trail running, Nordic skiing, recovering from trail running, camping, baking, knitting, reading, gardening. She's been an organic fruit grower, a newspaper and magazine editor, and a parent educator for Parents as Teachers. She's now writing a novel. She earned her MA in English Language & Linguistics at UW-Madison. One-word mantra: Adjust. Three-word mantra: I'm still learning. www.wordwoman.com