Robert Frost Stone House Museum Upcoming Events: Writing Workshop with James Crews; Botanizing Walk; Guest Speakers

Shaftsbury, VT: The Robert Frost Stone House Museum at Bennington College is open and welcoming visitors from Wednesday through Sunday, 11:00 AM—5:00 PM, until November 1.

This September, members, guests, and students are invited to the Museums for a series of workshops and events.

On **Sunday, September 9 from 10:00 AM - 2PM**, local poet and teacher **James Crews** will offer a follow up to his much-beloved **workshop on Mindfulness and Writing.** This session will examine the connections between the practice of meditation/mindfulness and the act of writing fearlessly from the heart. All levels welcome. \$40 for members / \$50 for non-members.

On **Tuesday, September 11 at 4:00 PM**, all are welcome to join Bennington College's celebrated ecologist **Dr. Kerry Woods** for a **"Botanizing Walk,"** so named after the walks Robert Frost used to take with his friends through the woods. Dr. Woods will share his extensive knowledge about tree and plant identification and ways to appreciate the natural world on the grounds. Free.

On **Friday, September 28 at 8:00 PM**, the Museum welcomes <u>Jay Parini</u>, a renowned Frost biographer, poet, author, and Middlebury professor. He will offer a reading from his *New and Collected Poems* and talk about Frost. Free. Seating for this lecture is first come, first serve.

On Sunday, September 30 from 9:00—11:00 AM, celebrate fall and Parents' Weekend at Bennington College. The house and grounds are free and open to museum members, as well as to Bennington students and their parents. Discounted \$5 entry for all others.

About the Robert Frost Stone House Museum

American poet Robert Frost (1874-1963) purchased the Stone House, built c. 1769, in 1920. It was there that he wrote one of his most famous poems "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening" in June 1922, and where he was living when he won his first Pulitzer. The young apple orchard on the property was propagated from Frost's own trees planted when he moved to the farm.

The Frost House was officially acquired by the College on December 1, 2017, thanks to a generous gift from the Friends of Robert Frost. The property had been preserved and opened

as a house museum fifteen years ago, which was made possible by donations from Peter J. Stanlis, a grant from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, and support from many others. During that time, it welcomed more than 50,000 visitors, scholars, and poets from all over the world.

The gift to the College includes the house, seven acres of property, and two barns. It is a five-minute drive from the College's campus, and Frost's grave is nearby in the cemetery at the Old First Church in Old Bennington.

The Frost House will provide enhanced learning and event space for Bennington's literature efforts, including the Masters of Fine Arts in Writing program; *The Bennington Review*, the College's literary journal; and Poetry at Bennington, a residency series that brings award-winning poets to campus for readings.

Interested in supporting restoration and programming at the Robert Frost Stone House Museum? Become a member today.

About Bennington College

Bennington College is a liberal arts college in southwestern Vermont that has distinguished itself as a vanguard institution within American higher education. It was the first to include the visual and performing arts in a liberal arts education and the first to integrate work in the classroom with work in the field. To this day, Bennington stands apart in requiring that every student—every winter term—get a job, complete an internship, or pursue an entrepreneurial experience. Bennington students work intensively with faculty to forge individual educational paths around their driving questions and interests.

Notable literary alumni from both the undergraduate and MFA in Writing program include Donna Tartt, Brett Easton Ellis, Kiran Desai, Jonathan Lethem, Michael Pollan, Ann Goldstein, Safiya Sinclair, Anaïs Duplan, Anne Waldman, Mary Ruefle, Cynthia Sweeney, Jamie Quatro; Amy Gerstler, Morgan Jerkins, and Charles Bock.