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For Immediate Release

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Celebrate National Poetry Month at Driftwood with PoetryMusic

April is National Poetry Month, and to celebrate, Driftwood public Library will be hosting a concert by a musical duo who call themselves PoetryMusic. The concert will take place at the library on Tuesday, April 3rd at 6:00 p.m.

For over 30 years Chris Lee and Colleen O'Brien have been performing as the eclectic chamber jazz duo (and sometimes trio) Primal Mates, The Chris Lee /Colleen O'Brien Group and currently as PoetryMusic.

Growing up about a mile from each other in Portland, they met in 1980 when Colleen asked Chris to play drums in a quartet she was forming. The meeting of kindred musical spirits is always a fortunate encounter and the two soon realized they had even more in common as 'anam cara' as the Irish say, or soul mates.

Along the way they have raised a son, spent a year in Alaska where the vibe, cello and voice duo was born, recorded projects of original music for a quintet that featured Art Lande and Paul McCandless of the group *Oregon*, performed at the Mt. Hood jazz festival, *Festival Internacional de Jazz* in San Miguel, Mexico as well as being featured on the Denver PBS series *Artist Profile*.

In 1989, they formed the eclectic chamber jazz trio Primal Mates in which they joined forces with 'anything with strings wizard' guitarist Khabu Doug Young. They performed and toured nationally and produced two recordings.

Chris and Colleen continue to tour and perform with PoetryMusic & as a duo evolving the spirit of Primal Mates in their chamber music as well as integrating their songs, and poetry project into the body of their works. They have been joined in the past by honorary '*Mates*' such as long time collaborator Mark Miller on flutes and soprano saxophone, Dan Balmer - guitar, Gary Versace - accordion, Mike Curtis - woodwinds, Dave Devine - guitar, Kai Lin Yong - violin and Eric Erhardt - clarinet and bass clarinet.

Their latest project is **PoetryMusic** which is dedicated to performing poetry that

has been set to music, music composed to poetry and poetry as a catalyst for free improvisation.

National Poetry Month each April is the largest literary celebration in the world, with tens of millions of readers, students, K-12 teachers, librarians, booksellers, literary events curators, publishers, bloggers, and, of course, poets marking poetry's important place in our culture and our lives.

Driftwood Public Library is located on the second floor of the Lincoln City City Hall building at 801 SW Highway 101 in Lincoln City (on the west side of the highway, adjacent to McKay's Market, and across the street from Burger King). Any questions regarding the concert can be directed to the Circulation Supervisor, Ken Hobson, at 541-996-1242 or via e-mail at khobson@lincolncity.org.

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