



"Portal," Photograph
by Diana Cole



OPEN CALL FOR POETRY FOR *THRESHOLDS* Details, Submission Guidelines, Understandings

Important Dates and Times

Submit Poem By	November 1, 2026
Notification	November 15, 2026
Exhibition Dates	March 11 - April 9, 2027
Poetry Reading and Opening	March 18, 2027; Arrive at 5 PM, Reading at 5:30 – 6:30 PM. Ends at 7:30 PM. In Partnership with Gallery Night Providence

Click [HERE](#) to submit poem by November 1, 2026.

What are those transitional moments when something begins, changes—when the familiar ends and the unknown begins? What imperative drives us, what hesitancy holds us back? This show challenges poets, artists, and viewers to pause and consider what a threshold is and why it matters.

15 poems will be selected for their relevance to the theme and to ensure a variety of interpretations by a panel of three jurors. Poems may have been previously published.

A separate call for entry has been made for 15 pieces of artwork. The exhibition will feature the 15 selected poems and the 15 selected pieces of artwork.

Details:

The *Thresholds* poetry and art exhibition dates are March 11 - April 9, 2027. Gallery Hours: M - F, 9 AM - 5 PM & Sundays 9 AM - 1 PM. Location: One Benevolent Street, Providence RI 02906.

Poetry Reading and Reception

March 18, 2027, 5:30-7:30 PM In Partnership with Gallery Night Providence

About the Atrium Gallery

The Atrium is a multi-purpose space at the First Unitarian Church of Providence (First U), One Benevolent St., Providence, RI 02906. The space is shared by different First U programs and open to the public six days a week. There is no gallery supervisor other than staff who walk through the gallery space to and from their offices. Click [HERE](#) (on any diamond image) to view a slide show of the gallery space.

Atrium Entrance and First U Parking

Entrance is on One Benevolent St., Providence, RI 02906.

Parking: There are three visitor parking spaces in the parking lot accessed from Benefit Street. You might find 2-hr or 3-hr street parking along Benefit and surrounding streets. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about parking at First U.

Collect the following before submitting the poem:

- Contact information (email, cell, mailing address)
- Title of poem
- Statement - How poem relates to the theme – 50 words
- Formatted poem on 8.5 x11 in a Word document

Submission guidelines:

1. Size, Font, Format, How Displayed

- The poem must fit on one 8.5 x 11 in. document. Use Calibri - 14 point font.
- Limit poems to 36 lines including title any attribution.
- Each line should be no more than 66-70 characters, including spaces.
- Any attribution should be in Calibri-12 pt in italics.
- Poems will be considered accurate as submitted and not proofread by the jurors.
- The selected poems will be mounted on foam core beside the artwork with accompanying labels with poet's name and statement.

2. *Statement* - Please include a statement as to how your poem relates to the theme - not to exceed 50 words. Poet's statement will be included in exhibit catalog and display label.

3. No bio is needed for the submission since selection of poems will be based entirely on the poem.

4. Poems may be previously published, although original publication should be credited. This will be noted in the exhibition catalog.

5. There is no submission or installation fee.

Understandings:

1. Poets should be available for the opening and reading on March 18, 2027, 5:00 - 7:30 PM.

2. Poets grant Art in the Atrium permission to feature the images of their work in an exhibition catalog that includes artwork and poetry. Sales of the catalog will help offset the cost of printing and will help raise funds for Art in the Atrium program expenses and giving to a worthy cause.

3. Poets are encouraged to promote the opening reception and exhibit among friends, family, and followers (email and social media).

Call for Art and Poetry Webpage www.aitafirstu.org/call-thresholds

Questions? Email admin@aitafirstu.org