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**Easton Elementary Fourth Grade Poetry Presentation at the Academy Art Museum a Great Success**

On Friday evening January 13 over 100 people, including students, parents and area fans of poetry attended a fourth grade poetry reading at the Academy Art Museum. The standing-room only event allowed students to showcase their writing talents before an appreciative audience.

The Museum's ArtReach Coordinator, Constance Del Nero, worked with students beforehand when students took field trips to visit the Museum's *Kertesz: On Reading* exhibition. During their field trips, students looked closely at Kertesz' evocative black and white photographs, noticing small details and appreciating subtleties. The students brainstormed and wrote their first drafts in the Museum galleries with Kertesz' originals close at hand. Back at school, they fine-tuned their poems with their teachers, Melissa Billings, Joanna Cain, Amy Fitzhugh, Amy Kellum, Kristin Stiles, Krystle Taylor, Tracey Talbott and Allison Tipton from Easton Elementary Moton.

Students who chose not to read at the event had their poems displayed on presentation boards in the Museum's atrium during the event. Given the success of the evening, Del Nero and the fourth grade team hope to make the poetry reading an annual event.