

April 23 is SJSU Legacy of Poetry Day

Celebrating SJSU's poets - past and present

The Poppy

By Dr. Henry Meade Bland
Professor 1899 – 1931
CA Poet Laureate 1929 - 1931

The first to lift its golden head
After the autumn shower;
The last to doff its summer red,—
A fragile, wind-blown flower!

In Poppy Fields

By Edwin Markham
California State Normal School
Class of 1872
Author of "The Man With the Hoe" (1899)

Here the poppy hosts assemble:
How they startle, how they tremble!
All their royal hoods unpinned
Blow out lightly in the wind.
Here is gold to labor for;
Here is pillage worth a war.

Men that in the cities grind,
Come! Before the heart is blind.

The Birth of the Poppies

By Edith Daley
Friend of Dr. Bland and the San José State Normal School
Published in Daley's *The Angel in the Sun* (1917) by
The Pacific Short Story Club at SJSNS

March weeps; full well earth knows her need,
And, where each rain-tear falls, a hidden seed
From winter sleep awakes to radiant bloom!
And through the days of sun or nights of gloom,
March, comforted, clasps closely to her breast,
Her soft, green breast, each golden poppy-child,—
And goes into the dark with heart at rest.