

Poet Ostriker gives public reading at Dominican

The reading, which was free and open to the public, was sponsored by the [Department of Literature and Languages](#), the [School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences](#), and the Expressions series.

Twice a finalist for the National Book Award, Ostriker has published numerous volumes of poetry, including *The Book of Seventy* (2009), which received the Jewish National Book Award. Other books of poetry include *No Heaven* (2005); *The Volcano Sequence* (2002); *Little Space* (1998), a finalist for the Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize; *The Crack in Everything* (1996), which won the Paterson Award and the San Francisco State Poetry Center Award; *The Imaginary Lover* (1986), winner of the William Carlos Williams Award; *A Woman Under the Surface* (1983), *Once More Out of Darkness* (1974), and *Songs* (1969).

Known for her intelligence and passionate appraisal of women's place in literature, Ostriker's poetry and criticism investigates themes of family, social justice, Jewish identity, and personal growth. Ostriker's books of criticism include *For the Love of God: The Bible as an Open Book* (2009), *Dancing at the Devil's Party: Essays on Poetry, Politics, and the Erotic* (2000), and *Stealing the Language: The Emergence of Women's Poetry in America* (1983). Of her place in American letters, the writer Joyce Carol Oates noted: "Alicia Ostriker has become one of those brilliantly provocative and imaginatively gifted contemporaries whose iconoclastic expression, whether in prose or poetry, is essential to our understanding of our American selves."