

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Typewriter Rodeo delivers unique entertainment for event guests

*"I love this band of spontaneous writers – they always lift the mood."  
~ Naomi Shihab Nye, Young People's Poet Laureate*

**Give a topic, get a poem.** For over eight years, Austin-based Typewriter Rodeo has created custom, on-demand poems at events all across the country. From a Hilton grand opening party at Cabo San Lucas, to a Smithsonian museum exhibit in Washington, D.C., the poets of Typewriter Rodeo sit behind their vintage typewriters, take topic requests from guests, and churn out instant, personalized poems.



*Harry Ransom Center, Austin*

**How it works.** This recent [video profile](#) by *Texas Country Reporter* shows the poets in action at a bookstore event in Dallas.

**Socks for Willie.** What's a typical gig for these traveling poets? Imagine a sprawling music & arts festival at Willie Nelson's ranch outside Austin, with companies promoting their wares at Western-themed booths. Including Stance Socks, who hired the Rodeo to type poems for festival-goers -- and cleverly included a custom company logo on each poem, so guests would remember the sock company long after the event.



**Corporate to cozy.** The Rodeo has brought their poetry posse to huge corporate conferences for companies like PayPal, Audi, and EA ... exhibit openings and evening parties at museums like the Boston Gardner, Seattle Art, Perot Science, and Phillips Collection ... art celebrations like the Nantucket Book Festival, Sun Valley Writers' Conference, and Texas Book Festival ... and more intimate gatherings like private parties, library talks, and school classroom visits.

**Creating poetry converts.** Basically, name an event or gathering, and they've probably done it – always to the delight of guests: "Not everyone loves poetry," says co-founder Sean Petrie, "but we've found that, everyone *does* love a poem, created for them, on a topic they chose, on-the-spot while they watch."

*"The hit of our company party!" ~ Castle Group, Boston*

“One of our favorite things,” adds co-founder Kari Anne (K.A.) Holt, “is when someone comes up to our table all skeptical, asking ‘What are you *doing* here?’, reluctantly gets a poem -- and then is amazed: ‘This is the best thing ever!’ We love creating poetry converts.”

**On air and stage.** Not only does the Rodeo bring their unique poetry flair to events, they do [radio poems](#) for Austin’s NPR station (thanks to sponsor the Texas Children’s Hospital), and even have a poetry-music-mashup stage show, which they’ve done with musicians Kathy Valentine (The Go-Go’s) and Lynzy Lab.



Stage show

**Nonprofit poems.** While the Rodeo is usually paid for their appearances (though poems are always free for guests), they also spread the poetry wealth by doing events for nonprofits such as Dell Children’s Hospital.

**In print.** Over the years, the Rodeo poets have written more than 25,000 poems for people all over the country. A few of those – along with backstories and photos – are collected in a lovely, *Humans-of-New-York*-type [book](#), published by Andrews McMeel.

**Add poetry flair.** Want to give the guests at your next event a memorable, personal keepsake? You could do worse than bringing in the poetry posse of Typewriter Rodeo.

**Contact:** Sean Petrie, [TypewriterRodeo@gmail.com](mailto:TypewriterRodeo@gmail.com)

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- [Video profile, Austin-American Statesman](#)
  - [Nantucket Magazine](#)
  - [Austin Chronicle \(cover story\)](#)
  - [Radio interview, NPR Boston](#)

*“Your skill and speed are unparalleled — we’ve never seen anything like it.”*  
~ Smithsonian National Museum of American History

*“Not just entertainment — a personal, emotional keepsake for each employee.”*  
~ PayPal

*“Thank you for keeping the sound and fury of typewriting available to all... Yee Haw!”*  
~ Tom Hanks

[www.TypewriterRodeo.com](http://www.TypewriterRodeo.com)