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Dedication to Excellence

and Celebration of the Arts

Honoring *Dana Gioia '69*



*"The tales we tell are either false or true,
but neither purpose is the point, we weave
the fabric of our own existence of words,
and the right tells who we are."*

From "Pity the Beautiful" by Dana Gioia

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*Junipero Serra High School believes that students of all
faiths and backgrounds deserve an academically chal-
lenging, spiritually enriching Catholic college prepara-
tory education that forms them to become generous,
responsible citizens
and leaders.*



Junipero Serra High School

Presents:

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Dedication to Excellence

and Celebration of the Arts

*In support of the students of
Junipero Serra High School*



Honoring *Dana Gioia '69*

*Writer, former California State Poet Laureate &
former Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts*

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Monday, September 30, 2019

5:00pm — 8:00pm

Dwan Hurt Memorial Gymnasium

14830 S. Van Ness Ave

Gardena, CA 90249



Dana Gioia ('69) is an internationally recognized poet, critic, and the former Poet Laureate of California. From 2003 to 2009, Gioia served as Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts.

The first member of his family to attend college, Gioia graduated from Stanford in 1975. He then earned an M.A. in Comparative Literature from Harvard before returning to Stanford to earn an M.B.A.

In his fifteen-year career with General Foods, Gioia rose to the level of Vice President. All through this time, he wrote during his nights and weekends, securing his reputation as the "Businessman-Poet." To date, he has written five books of poetry, three volumes of literary criticism, four opera libretti, and more. Highlights include: *Can Poetry Matter*, chosen by *Publisher's Weekly* as one of the "Best Books of 1992"; the Poets' Prize winner *99 Poems: New and Selected* (2016); and *The Catholic Writer Today* whose title essay began an international debate about the role of faith in literature. Gioia has also edited over twenty anthologies.

Gioia is currently the Judge Widney Professor of Poetry and Public Culture at the University of Southern California.



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Gardena, CA 90249

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