This day-long gathering will focus on the close examination of individual poems: word by word, line by line. How does a poem create its effects and in what ways does it convey meaning? Seven poets and scholars will guide us through poems they admire.

The primary conference site will be the Harry Jack Gray Center, opening for coffee and welcoming remarks at 9:30 AM, and the first session beginning at 10:15 AM.

Presenters include Trinity College professor and poet Ciaran Berry; Yale University professor Langdon Hammer; Yale professor Karin Roffman; poet Kate Rushin; and University of St. Joseph professor Dennis Barone. (Full schedule to follow.)

The program will conclude with a keynote presentation by Helen Vendler in Wilde Auditorium at 4PM.

Helen Vendler, perhaps the foremost critical voice of our moment, is the Arthur Kingsley Porter University Professor in the Department of English at Harvard. She has held three NEH fellowships and a Fulbright, and has frequently been a judge for the Pulitzer Prize in poetry. She holds twenty-three honorary degrees from universities and colleges in the United States and abroad. Vendler’s writing on contemporary poetry can be found regularly in The New Republic, The London Review of Books, and The New Yorker. Her latest book, The Ocean, the Bird, and the Scholar (Harvard University Press, 2015), collects her most recent essays.

The conference is free and open to the public.

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For more information, please contact the conference organizers—

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