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October 8, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**American Book Award Winner Arthur Sze to Read at
Third Annual Morton Marcus Memorial Poetry Reading
Saturday, November 10 - 7:00 PM, Cabrillo Samper Recital Hall**

Aptos, CA— Cabrillo College is proud to sponsor **The Third Annual Morton Marcus Memorial Poetry Reading** featuring American Book Award winner and Chancellor of American Poets **Arthur Sze** on Saturday, November 10 at 7:00 p.m., in the Cabrillo Samper Recital Hall. The evening will also include a reading by the winner of the Morton Marcus Poetry Contest. This annual, free event is first-come, first-served seating. Doors will open at 6:30 PM.

The Annual Morton Marcus Memorial Poetry Reading honors poet, teacher, and film critic Morton Marcus (1936–2009). Marcus, a cultural icon of Santa Cruz County, passed away in 2009. Throughout his life Marcus actively brought together many of the art communities in the county. Among his pursuits was his great belief in the importance and richness of poetry to our culture. The Annual Morton Marcus Memorial Poetry Reading, co-sponsored by Poetry Santa Cruz, Ow Family Properties, Cabrillo College and UCSC, honors Marcus and his beliefs by bringing an acclaimed writer to the admission-free Memorial Reading each year.

This year's reading will feature the extraordinary poet **Arthur Sze**, who is the author of eight books of poetry including *The Ginkgo Light* (Copper Canyon, 2009), which was selected for the Mountains & Plains Independent Booksellers Association Book Award and the PEN Southwest Book Award. Mr. Sze was the first poet laureate of Santa Fe (2006-2008) and the recipient of a Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writers' Award (1998-2000); a Guggenheim Fellowship (1997); four Witter Bynner Foundation for Poetry grants (1980, 1983, 1994, 1997); a Lannan Literary Award for Poetry (1995); two National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing fellowships (1982, 1993); a George A. and Eliza Gardner Howard Foundation Fellowship (1991); a New Mexico Arts Division Interdisciplinary Grant (1988); and the Eisner Prize, University of California at Berkeley (1971). In January of 2012, Sze was named a Chancellor to the Academy of American Poets. His poems have appeared internationally and have been translated into Albanian, Bosnian, Burmese, Chinese, Dutch, French, Italian, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish, Turkish, and Uzbek. He is a professor emeritus at the Institute of American Indian Arts and lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The evening, hosted by Santa Cruz's first poet laureate **Gary Young**, will highlight Sze's readings from his own work, as well as a reading by the winner of the Morton Marcus Poetry Contest sponsored by *phren-Z*, an online publication of Santa Cruz Writes. The inaugural contest, with a \$1,000 jackpot, blindly judged by California poet laureate emeritus Al Young, had over 104 poems submitted from seven U.S. states and France. The winning poem was "Take Wing" by Santa Cruz resident and Cabrillo English Instructor David Sullivan. The winning poem and three honorable mentions, will be published in the Fall 2012 issue of *phren-Z*, available on November 15.

The reading will conclude with a book signing and sale with Arthur Sze in the lobby.

What: The Annual Morton Marcus Memorial Poetry Reading featuring **Arthur Sze**
When: Saturday, November 10, 2010 - 7:00 PM



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Where: Cabrillo College Samper Recital Hall, 6500 Soquel Drive, Aptos, CA

Info: www.mortonmarcus.com or 831-479-5744

Free Event: First come, first served seating

About Morton Marcus

Poet, teacher, and film critic Morton Marcus (1936–2009) was a cultural icon of Santa Cruz County for over 40 years. He was the Santa Cruz County Artist of the Year 1999 and a recipient of the Gail Rich Award in 2007 for his outstanding contributions to the cultural life of Santa Cruz. Among his published works are eleven volumes of poetry, including *The Santa Cruz Mountain Poems*, *Pages from a Scrapbook of Immigrants*, *Moments Without Names*, *Shouting Down the Silence*, *Pursuing the Dream Bone*, a novel, and his literary memoir, *Striking Through the Masks*. He taught English and Film at Cabrillo College for thirty years, was the co-host of the longest running poetry radio program in the nation, *The Poetry Show*, and was the co-host of the television film review show, *Cinema Scene*.

About The Morton Marcus Poetry Archive at UCSC

Mort Marcus's Poetry Archive is now housed at UCSC's Special Collections. Mort's personal papers, manuscripts, and recordings reflect his legacy as a poet and educator, and his collection of poetry books, broadsides, literary magazines and correspondence with other poets and writers illuminates his deep involvement in and passion for the literary art of poetry. For more information about the Archive or to contribute to its support please contact Special Collections (speccoll@ucsc.edu.)

About Cabrillo College

Cabrillo College is a leading California community college serving Santa Cruz County with locations in Aptos, Scotts Valley and Watsonville. It is ranked #1 in transfers to UC Santa Cruz. Founded in 1959, the college offers over 100 academic and career technical education programs that serve multiple educational goals such as A.A. and A.S. degrees, certificates of achievement, skills certificates, transfer to 4-year institutions or for lifelong learning and personal enrichment. Cabrillo College is a dynamic, diverse and responsive educational community that is dedicated to helping all students achieve their academic, career, and personal development goals.