



MAMMOTH PUBLICATIONS

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To Whom It May Concern:

I fully support Denise Lajimodiere for the position of North Dakota Poet Laureate. As former Kansas Poet Laureate, I understand what is needed for success in this role. Dr. Lajimodiere has the abilities to interact with the public in a leadership role with innovative ideas and adaptability. This position is an honor, but it also requires commitment and service. She will represent the literary arts and North Dakota splendidly.

I have been familiar with Lajimodiere's writings for years as a Native educator—I taught at Haskell Indian Nations University. I met her in person at the Native American Literature Association conferences, where she is an active and respected participant. I deepened my relationship with her during an intensive arts residency at Mallard Island. I appreciate her intelligence and writing skills. Her poems are a striking blend of lyrical power and narrative. Her poems and academic articles are important indicators of her North Dakota ties, especially Ojibwa. She has courage to work with difficult materials and to find reconciliation and solutions.

My husband and I respected Lajimodiere's work so profoundly that we invited her to publish a chapbook with our press, Mammoth Publications. The result was *Bitter Tears*, which is a bestseller for the press and an important companion publication to the author's prose book *Stringing Rosaries*, both about boarding school years and the tribulations that resulted. Her other books of poetry are well respected. She is becoming a well-known poet nationally.

I follow Dr. Lajimodiere on social media, where she skillfully presents her artworks and updates on writing projects. She is also a person I look to for community connections, both human and those of the natural world. You are lucky to have such an outstanding individual apply for this important position. Do not hesitate to contact me if you wish further [information—deniselow@gmail.com](mailto:deniselow@gmail.com) and 785-925-3509.

Dr. Denise Low

Co-publisher, Mammoth Publications