On Thursday February 11four college poets from around Connecticut were honored by the Connecticut Poetry Society with a ceremony held at the University of Hartford’s Wilde Auditorium. Sarah Horton, from Southern Connecticut State University, Katherine Orazem from Yale University, Kristin Rocha from Trinity College, and University of Hartford’s own Jon Dudek read their unique poems.

Horton, a religious studies major, read poems that intertwined beautiful analogies with her faith, nature and pottery.

Orazem, shared a very personal poem called “Rellocks”. Wilde auditorium was silent as she read the poem about her grandparents’ love, a love that lasted through hundreds of letters during World War Two. “I put one letter in 1952, the other in 49... Sometimes they wrote twice, three times a day,” read Orazem.

Rocha, a senior writing major at Trinity College spoke of her time in Spain as the root of much of her inspiration. Her poem “Nationalism” spoke of her time in Barcelona abroad, an experience that changed her life.

Even though it was her longest poem the audience’s attention was never lost as she described how the cobble stoned streets at night were filled with unsavory characters. “It was all of Spain,” she said, “that was Nationalism.” Another one of her poems discusses how a woman’s body is like the Spanish guitar. “It sings, it weeps, you strum it carefully.”

Jon Dudek brought humor to the stage from the moment he set foot on it stating that “being recognized in the arts is quite humbling. He left the stage in the very same attitude after reading a funny Valentine’s Day poem. “I’m incapable of writing love poems, but I thought hey I’ll give this a try,” he said.

Laura Amell a junior English student attended the ceremony to listen to Jon. “He’s a very funny, but very talented guy. I really enjoyed his poems as well as the poems of the three other students.”