**Desiree Alvarez is Featured Poet**

**in Kittery Art Association’s**

***Mangion Poetry Celebration***

Poet Desiree Alvarez will be featured in the *Mangion Memorial Poetry Celebration* at the Kittery Art Association on Saturday, May 6, beginning with an interview and craft talk with the poet from 1:00pm to 2:30pm in the afternoon, and the reading, reception, and book signing beginning at 7pm the same evening.

The interview and craft talk, open to all those interested in reading and writing poetry, will be hosted by former Portsmouth Poet Laureate Kimberly Cloutier Green, who will serve as the emcee for the afternoon interview and evening reading.

Winner of Bauhan Publishing’s May Sarton Poetry Award (2015) for her book, *Devil’s Paintbrush*, Desiree Alvarez has published widely in national literary magazines, including *Poetry*, *Boston Review*, *Denver Quarterly* and *The Iowa Review*. Alvarez is the recipient of the Willard L. Metcalf Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the Glenna Luschei Award from *Prairie Schooner*. Her poetry is anthologized in *The Traveler’s Vade Mecum* (Red Hen Press). She has received fellowships as both a visual artist and writer from Yaddo, Poets House, New York Foundation for the Arts, and Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Workspace Program. Alvarez exhibits widely and teaches at CUNY and The Juilliard School. She also teaches poetry to New York City public school teens as part of an Artists Space initiative.

The talk and reading at the Kittery Art Association honor the memory of beloved KAA member and volunteer Bob Mangion, a longtime supporter of the KAA, founding member of KAA’s *First Tuesday Poets*, and core member of the decade-long KAA Music Series. Alvarez’s prize-winning book, *Devil’s Paintbrush*, will be available for sale and signing during the evening reception.

The May 6 events at 1:00pm and 7pm will be held in the upstairs gallery at the Kittery Art Association, 8 Coleman Ave., Kittery Point. The suggested donation is $25.00 for both events or $15.00 for individual events. All proceeds benefit the work of the Kittery Art Association. Doors open a half hour before each event. Seating is limited. For more information, call 439-9384 or email information@kitteryartassociation.org.