

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



UPDATE from the City Manager for Sunday, November 8, 2020

Portsmouth Mask Ordinance now in effect. Do your part. Wear a mask.

Deaths to date from COVID-19: US: 239,013. NH: 489. Rockingham County: 105.

Cumulative cases: US: 10,086,000

Cumulative cases in NH: 12,241. Rockingham County: 3,030. Portsmouth: 211.

Current cases in NH: 1,772. Rockingham County: 455. In Portsmouth: 45.

For the complete, NH Department of Health & Human Services dashboard <http://www.nh.gov/covid19>

Click here for the entire Advisory collection of poems by Portsmouth Poet Laureate Tammi Truax.

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city-manager/portsmouth-poet-laureate>

This is Us

My country in spite of thee
we've shown ourselves to be
as ruthless as barbarian clans
of centuries long since elapsed.

Different weapons, similar savagery.
Barbaros though, was a name given to
voices the Greeks couldn't grasp.
(Ironically, they were said to stammer.)

My countrymen, our brutal dichotomy
since we sing in the same lexicon,
is not so much a failure to understand
as a failure to hear, a failure to care.

Evolution, like ballot counting,
is a maddeningly methodical
telling of truths, an undeniable
unfolding of us.

-- Tammi J Truax

Portsmouth Poet Laureate 2019-2021/Maine Beat Poet Laureate 2018-2020



*Ludovisi Battle Sarcophagus: Battle of Romans and Barbarians, c. 250-260 C.E., pre-concrete marble, 150 cm high
(Palazzo Altemps: Museo Nazionale Romano, Rome)*