

# BRIEF HISTORY AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## Life Events

- May 28, 1913: Anna Thilda May Swenson was born. This day is recognized by the State of Utah as May Swenson Day.
- 1930: Logan High Graduate.
- 1934: Utah State Graduate.
- December 4, 1989: May died. She is buried in the Logan City Cemetery.
- 1997: The May Swenson Poetry Award annual competition created to honor her as one of America's most vital and provocative writers.

## Achievements

- 1954: *The New Yorker* published her poem "Snow by Morning."
- 1980-89: Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets.
- 1987: MacArthur Foundation Fellowship, also known as the "Genius Award."
- 2005: Her portrait is hung in the National Gallery in Washington DC, one of only three Utah citizens to achieve this honor.

## Path Purpose

May Swenson is widely recognized in the literature world as a highly influential Twentieth Century poet. The purpose of the Poetry Path is to promote appreciation and awareness of her work as one of Utah's most influential figures.

For more info visit:  
<http://www.mayswensonsociety.org/>  
<http://www.poetryfoundation.org/bio/may-swenson>

When I was little, when  
the poplar was in leaf,  
its shadow made a sheaf,  
the quill of a great pen  
dark upon the lawn  
where I used to play.

("The Poplar's Shadow" stz. 1)



The May Swenson Poetry Path is an initiative of the Department of English at Utah State University ([English.usu.edu](http://English.usu.edu)). Undergraduate Research Fellow Marissa Shirley designed and executed this brochure.  
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Erich Hartmann – Magnum

# MAY SWENSON POETRY PATH

Logan, Utah

# THE MAY SWENSON POETRY PATH

**USU Research Greenhouses**  
Swenson poem on display  
1410 North 800 East

1

**Logan City Cemetery**  
1000 North 1200 East  
Site of May Swenson's burial.  
Enter Logan Cemetery at 900 North  
and 1200 East at the east gate. Turn left  
immediately. Turn right on the first  
road. Go one block and turn right.  
The grave is on the right-hand side.

2



**Swenson Room:  
Merrill-Cazier Library**  
Area dedicated to May Swenson (USU '34)  
USU Campus. Fourth Floor Lounge.

3

**Swenson Room: Ray B. West**  
Memorabilia of May Swenson  
USU Campus, Second Floor

4

**Childhood Home Plaque**  
Swenson's family home  
669 East 500 North

5

**Logan Public Library**  
May Swenson poem hung on display  
255 North Main St

6

**Logan High School**  
Swenson graduated 1930, poem on display  
162 West 100 South

7

**Willow Park Zoo**  
Poem hung in gift shop  
419 West 700 South

8

**Bear Lake Overlook**  
Plaque dedicated to May Swenson  
U.S. Highway 89, milepost 493

9

