

CONTEST RULES
(Read carefully. Any violation will disqualify entry.)

- Any poem submitted must:
 - be the original work of the contestant, unpublished in any form, including electronically and placed on exhibition, not under consideration or accepted for publication. (Award will be recalled if a winning poem is found to be in violation of rules before publication in the NFSPS anthology of prize poems, and lower prizes and honorable mentions will move up in classification);
 - be written in English, be titled, unless the poem is a haiku or another form that is supposed to be untitled;
 - have a 40 line limit (printed lines) for all contests not stating line limit;
 - be typed or computer generated (not handwritten or hand printed) without illustrations.
- Poets give NFSPS exclusive first printing rights to all poems entered in the NFSPS Annual Contests. Poems winning a cash prize of \$15 or more will be printed in the NFSPS prize poems anthology, *Encore*, at the discretion of the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to alter line breaks in poems having more than 50 characters per line, including punctuation marks and spaces. Printing rights revert to the poet after the anthology is published (approx. August of 2018). Printing rights to poems winning less than \$15 (or no prize) revert to the poet after the list of winners is published in the August, 2018 NFSPS newsletter, *Strophes*. All prize winners will be notified, and others may obtain a list of winners in August, 2018 by sending \$1 and a #10 SASE to:

Paul Ford, Strophes Editor
10239 Hickory Point Dr., Sandy, UT 84092

No poems will be returned, so poets should retain copies.
- An eligible poem may not be withdrawn after submission.
- Except as indicated in Contest 1–NFSPS Founders Award, contestants may submit only one entry in any contest, and may not submit the same poem in any other contest.
- Check or money order enclosed must be made payable to NFSPS, Inc. (initials sufficient) rather than to any individual.
 - Non-members may enter most contests at \$1 each (except \$5 for each entry in Contest 1–NFSPS Founders Award). Non-members may not enter contests marked with an asterisk, * and which are designated members only.
 - Members may enter up to 10 contests for \$1 per poem or \$10 total for entry in more than 10 contests (except for Contest 1–NFSPS Founders Award, which is \$5 per poem).
 - Entrants from outside the U.S. must send checks drawn on U.S. banks or branches, payable in U.S. funds, or send U.S. currency.
- First Prize winner in Contest 1–NFSPS Founders Award is not eligible to enter that contest the following year. (NFSPS Founders Award only.)

- Judges will be selected by NFSPS, Inc. No ties will be awarded, and the decisions of the judges will be final.
- When to submit poems:
 - Contest **starting date**: entries must not be postmarked before **January 1, 2018**;
 - Contest **deadline**: entries must be postmarked by **March 15, 2018**.
- “Members Only” eligible if a paid-up member of a state society, listed in alphabetical membership roll mailed by a state society along with NFSPS dues to:

Lucille Morgan Wilson, NFSPS Treasurer
2325 61st Street, Des Moines, IA 50322

by January 15, 2018 and updated as required by the Contest deadline. (E-mail: lucille_e_wilson@hotmail.com)

- How to submit poems:
 - Send **two** copies of the poem, typed, photocopied, or computer-generated, on 8.5” x 11” white paper (no onion skin or tissue), in black ink, **single-spaced**. If the poem requires more than one page, staple together at the top **left** corner all pages of each copy.
 - On **both** copies, place number and name of contest in upper **left** corner.
 - On **second copy only**, put name, address, phone number, and E-mail address of poet, state society membership or “NON-MEMBER NFSPS” in upper **right** corner. If a poem requires more than one page, number pages also on upper right corner (both copies).
 - Separate originals from duplicates and stack in numerical order (1-50) with originals on top. Count them.
 - Prepare a 3” x 5” lined file card (leave first line blank) and list poet’s name, address, phone number, E-mail address (if available), state society membership (or “NON-MEMBER”). List on the card the number, but not the title of each contest you are entering. List the total number of poems sent. Do NOT staple the card to entries or to entry fee.
 - Mail all entries at one time, unfolded, in a large envelope, including the file card and entry fee. Mail to the Contest Chair by First Class, Priority Mail or any form of delivery that does NOT require a signature upon receipt.

Mail Entries to:
Contest Chairman Susan Maxwell Campbell at:
115 North Wisteria
Mansfield, TX 76063-1835
susanmaxwellcampbell@gmail.com

The NFSPS, Inc. will **not** assume mailing costs and will not be responsible for any entries lost or delayed in the mail.

FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THE FOLLOWING:

E-mail or send a #10 SASE to the Chairman in charge:

- Rules, 2018 Annual Contests**
Susan Maxwell Campbell, 2018 Contest Chair:
115 North Wisteria, Mansfield, TX 76063-1835
susanmaxwellcampbell@gmail.com
- Brochures Mailing, 2018 Annual Contests**
Paul Ford, *Strophes* Editor
10239 Hickory Point Dr., Sandy, UT 84092
E-mail: pmford3@yahoo.com
- Contest Sponsors/Brochures**
Sharon Martin Turner, Contest Sponsors/Brochure Chair
10807 Silhouette Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216
E-mail: sdmturner@aol.com
- Membership**
James Barton, President/Membership Coordinator
P.O. Box 263, Huttig, AR 71747
E-mail: jbob214@yahoo.com
- Stevens Manuscript Competition**
Wilda Morris, Stevens Manuscript Chair
499 Falcon Ridge Way, Bolingbrook, IL 60440-2242
E-mail: stevens.nfsp@gmail.com
- 2018 College Undergraduate Poetry Competition**
Shirley Blackwell, Competition Chair
P.O.Box 1352, Los Lunas, NM 87031
E-mail: sonneteer@earthlink.net

• The 2018 BlackBerryPeach (BBP3) Award

A major NFSPS competition that challenges poets to present their original poetry in print and spoken word for substantial cash prizes and the opportunity to speak and be heard at the national level.

Prizes: 1st Place: \$1,000 2nd Place: \$500 3rd Place: \$250
Each winner will also receive 25 complimentary copies of the chapbook to give to family or friends or to sell at the convention.

For complete entry information visit the NFSPS Website at www.nfsp.com. For additional information contact Joseph Cavanaugh, 4th VP/Development/Endowments/BBP3 Chair 3722 Longford Cir., Ormond Beach, FL 32174
E-mail: jcavanaugh1@gmail.com

The NFSPS anthology of Prize Poems, *Encore*, containing the winning poems from these contests, will be available upon publication in August on the Amazon.com Website and at the 2019 NFSPS summer convention. For information regarding current *Encore* editions: 2016, 2017, and forward, contact: **Encore Editor, Kathy Cotton at kalcotton@gmail.com**. To order *Encore* editions from 2015 and earlier, mail your order with a check payable to NFSPS to: **Encore Editor Emeritus, Valerie Martin Bailey 2207 Parhaven Dr., San Antonio, TX 78232**
For information regarding available editions and book prices, visit the NFSPS Website (select Publications in menu).



National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc.

www.nfsp.com

Organized in Baton Rouge, LA ~ October 17, 1959
Constitution adopted in Philadelphia, PA ~ June 18, 1960
Incorporated in Madison, WI ~ July 15, 1966

NFSPS, Inc. is a non-profit organization, exclusively educational and literary. Its purpose is to recognize the importance of poetry with respect to national cultural heritage. It is dedicated solely to the furtherance of poetry on the national level and serves to unite poets in the bonds of fellowship and understanding. NFSPS, Inc. offers fifty national contests each year and conducts an annual convention hosted by one of its affiliated states. The 2018 Convention site will be announced. Check the Website at www.nfsp.com.

HONORARY CHANCELLORS

(In order of appointment)

Joseph Auslander	Richard Armour	Tess Gallagher
John Crowe Ransom	Richard Eberhart	Michael Bugeja
Glenn Ward Dresbach	James Dickey	David Wagoner
Jessee Stuart	Judson Jerome	Maxine Kumin
Grace Noll Crowell	John Ciardi	Naomi Shihab Nye
Jean Star Untermeyer	Robert Coles	Li-Young Lee
Loring Williams	Richard Shelton	Lewis Turco
Harry M. Meacham	Marcia Lee Masters	Ted Kooser
John Williams Andrews	Robert Penn Warren	Natasha Trethewey
August Derleth	Richard Wilbur	Peter Meinke
William Stafford	William Stafford	New Honorary
N. Scott Momaday	Rodney Jones	Chancellor TBA

59th Annual Convention ~ 2018 Annual Contests

- NFSPS FOUNDERS AWARD (to honor Mary B. Wall)**
Subject: Any. Form: Any. 100 line limit. Sponsored by the NFSPS, Inc. — 1st Prize: \$1,000. 2nd Prize: \$500. 3rd Prize: \$250.
Entry fee – members and non-members: \$5 per poem.
Limit: 4 poems per contestant.
- *2. THE DIAMOND T AWARD (*Members Only)**
In memory of Harvey Jordan Turner. Subject: Cowboy Poetry, detailing the life of a cowboy at work, past and present cowboys (See Baxter Black for examples). Form: Any. 50 line limit.
Sponsored by: the Diamond T Ranch Families.
1st Prize: \$500. 2nd Prize: \$300. 3rd Prize: \$200.
- 3. THE NFSPS BOARD AWARD**
Subject: Any. Form: Rondeau: 15 lines divided into 3 stanzas, rhymed aabba, aabR aabbR. The first half of the first line is repeated as a refrain(R). Use either 8 or 10 syllables per line. Be consistent throughout. See “In Flanders Fields” for example. Sponsored by the NFSPS Executive and Appointive boards.
1st Prize: \$280. 2nd Prize: \$130. 3rd Prize: \$90.
- 4. THE MARGO AWARD**
In memory of Margo LaGattuta who encouraged poetry in every one she met. Subject: Animals. Form: Any. 50 line limit. Sponsored by her friends. 1st Prize: \$225. 2nd Prize: \$125. 3rd Prize: \$75.
- 5. WINNERS’ CIRCLE AWARD**
Subject: Any. Form: Any. 80 line limit. Sponsored by previous prize winners in Contest 1, NFSPS Founders Award: Shirley Elliott Cosby, Diane Glancy, Harriet Stovall Kelley, Anne McCrady, Pat Stodghill, Pat Underwood.
1st Prize: \$225. 2nd Prize: \$100. 3rd Prize: \$75.

***6. DONALD STODGHILL MEMORIAL AWARD (*Members Only)**

To honor the memory of Don Stodghill, who served as President of the Poetry Society of Texas and Legal Advisor of NFSPS. Subject: Any. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by Pat Stodghill. 1st Prize: \$200. 2nd Prize: \$100. 3rd Prize: \$50.

***7. GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY AWARD (*Members Only)**

Subject: The American South—historical events, cultural aspects, landscapes, weather, etc. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Georgia Poetry Society. 1st Prize: \$150. 2nd Prize: \$75. 3rd Prize: \$25.

***8. POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS AWARD (*Members Only)**

Subject: Any. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Poetry Society of Texas. 1st Prize: \$125. 2nd Prize: \$50. 3rd Prize: \$25.

***9. THE CHILDREN'S HOUR AWARD (*Members Only)**

Subject: Poetry for Children. Form: Any rhymed form. 40 line limit. Sponsored by The Turner and Rabke families in honor of grandchildren everywhere. 1st Prize: \$100. 2nd Prize: \$60. 3rd Prize: \$40.

***10. AL LASTER MEMORIAL AWARD (*Members Only)**

Subject: An Ekphrastic Poem—written in response to viewing a painting, photograph, sculpture, drawing, or other piece of visual art. Form: Any. 50 line limit. Sponsored by the Connecticut Poetry Society. 1st Prize: \$100. 2nd Prize: \$50. 3rd Prize: \$25.

11. FLORIDA STATE POETS ASSOCIATION, INC. AWARD

Subject: A Celebration of Florida History or Culture—or any other Florida topic, historic or contemporary. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Florida State Poets Association, Inc. 1st Prize: \$100. 2nd Prize: \$50. 3rd Prize: \$25.

***12. ALABAMA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD (*Members Only)**

In honor of John Chambers, Riley Kelly, Helen Norris, and all the other ASPS poets we have lost. Subject: So, why is it called “Alabama the Beautiful”? Form: Any. 50 line limit. Sponsored by the Alabama State Poetry Society. 1st Prize: \$75. 2nd Prize: \$50. 3rd Prize: \$25.

13. LAND OF ENCHANTMENT AWARD

Subject: A Poem Related to “Borders,” real or imagined. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the New Mexico State Poetry Society. 1st Prize: \$75. 2nd Prize: \$50. 3rd Prize: \$25.

14. THE VIRGINIA CORRIE-COZART MEMORIAL AWARD

Subject: Art, Music, and/or Dance. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by her friends in the Peregrine Writers. 1st Prize: \$75. 2nd Prize: \$50. 3rd Prize: \$25.

15. ARIZONA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

Subject: “Last Year’s Vacation.” Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Arizona State Poetry Society (ASPS). 1st Prize: \$75. 2nd Prize: \$30. 3rd Prize: \$20.

***16. MILDRED VORPAHL BAASS REMEMBRANCE AWARD (*Members Only)**

In loving remembrance of Mildred Vorpahl Baass, who served two terms as Poet Laureate of Texas, 1993-1994 and 1994-1995. Subject: Domestic Cats—their endearing habits, intelligence, loyalty, beauty, etc. (no reference to cruelty or abuse). Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by her daughter, Nancy Baass. 1st Prize: \$60, 2nd Prize: \$40, 3rd Prize: \$20..

17. LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA POETS AWARD

In memory of John Rezmerski Subject: Any. Form: Free Verse. 45 line limit. Sponsored by the League of Minnesota Poets. 1st Prize: \$60. 2nd Prize: \$40. 3rd Prize: \$20.

18. JESSICA C. SAUNDERS MEMORIAL AWARD

Subject: Any. Form: Villanelle. Line Limit: 19. Sponsored by the Shavano Poets Society of Colorado. 1st Prize: \$60. 2nd Prize: \$40. 3rd Prize: \$20.

19. POETRY SOCIETY OF INDIANA AWARD

Subject: Barefoot in the Summer. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Poetry Society of Indiana. 1st Prize: \$50. 2nd Prize: \$30. 3rd Prize: \$20.

20. NEVADA POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

Subject: Any. Form: Any. (but strong on imagery). 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Nevada Poetry Society. 1st Prize: \$50. 2nd Prize: \$30. 3rd Prize: \$20.

21. WILLIAM STAFFORD MEMORIAL AWARD

In memory of William Stafford, Oregon’s late Poet Laureate and twice Honorary Chancellor of NFSPS. Subject: Any. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Oregon Poetry Association and friends of William Stafford. 1st Prize: \$50. 2nd Prize: \$30. 3rd Prize: \$20.

22. THE NEW YORK POETRY FORUM AWARD

Subject: The Art of Poetry. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the New York Poetry Forum. 1st Prize: \$50. 2nd Prize: \$30. 3rd Prize: \$20.

***23. COLUMBINE POETS OF COLORADO AWARD (*Members Only)**

Subject: Reflections. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Columbine Poets of Colorado. 1st Prize: \$50. 2nd Prize: \$30. 3rd Prize: \$20.

24. MORTON D. PROUTY & ELSIE S. PROUTY MEMORIAL AWARD

In memory of Morton D. Prouty Jr., who served as NFSPS Treasurer and Poet Laureate of Alabama and Elsie S. Prouty. Subject: A Nature Poem. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by daughters, Catherine P. Horn and Carol P. Ostberg and their families. 1st Prize: \$50. 2nd Prize: \$30. 3rd Prize: \$20.

***25. POETS ROUNDTABLE OF ARKANSAS AWARD (*Members Only)**

Subject: Any. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Poets Roundtable of Arkansas. 1st Prize: \$50. 2nd Prize: \$30. 3rd Prize: \$20.

26. LOUISIANA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

Subject: Any. Form: Any. 40 lines or less. Sponsored by the Louisiana State Poetry Society. 1st Prize: \$50. 2nd Prize: \$30. 3rd Prize: \$20.

***27. FREEDA MURPHY MEMORIAL AWARD (*Members Only)**

In memory of Freeda Murphy. Subject: Any. Form: Any. 28 line limit. Sponsored by the Poetry Society of Texas. 1st Prize: \$50. 2nd Prize: \$30. 3rd Prize: \$20.

28. CLAIRE VAN BREEMEN DOWNES MEMORIAL AWARD

To honor the memory of Claire van Breemen Downes, Contest Chair (1997-99). Subject: Any. Form: Sonnet. Sponsored by Alan Downes and friends of Claire. 1st Prize: \$50. 2nd Prize: \$30. 3rd Prize: \$20.

29. UTAH STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

Subject: Heritage. Form: Any. 50 line limit. Sponsored by the Utah State Poetry Society. 1st Prize: \$50. 2nd Prize: \$30. 3rd Prize: \$20.

30. CSPS JAMES E. MACWHINNEY MEMORIAL AWARD

Subject: Any. Form: Blank Verse –Iambic Pentameter. 50 line limit. Sponsored by the California State Poetry Society. 1st Prize: \$50. 2nd Prize: \$30. 3rd Prize: 20.

31. ILLINOIS STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

Subject: Books. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Illinois State Poetry Society. 1st Prize: \$50. 2nd Prize: \$30. 3rd Prize: \$20

32. OHIO AWARD

Subject: Any. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Ohio Poetry Association. 1st Prize: \$50. 2nd Prize: \$25. 3rd Prize: \$15.

***33. MINUTE AWARD (*Members Only)**

Subject: Capture a Slice of Life. Form: A Minute Poem, created by Verna Lee Hinegardner. A 60 syllable, 12 line poem in strict iambic meter, syllable count for each line is: 8444. Rhyme Scheme: aabbbc / ddeeff. Capitalize and punctuate. Sponsored by Sharon Martin Turner. 1st Prize: \$35. 2nd Prize: \$25. 3rd Prize: \$15.

34. POETRY SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN AWARD

Subject: Any. Form: Free Verse. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Poetry Society of Michigan. 1st Prize: \$35. 2nd Prize: \$25. 3rd Prize: \$15

35. MISSISSIPPI POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

Subject: Any. Form: Sonnet (Indicate sonnet pattern on entry). Sponsored by the Mississippi Poetry Society, Inc. 1st Prize: \$35. 2nd Prize: \$25. 3rd Prize: \$15

***36. JESSE STUART MEMORIAL AWARD (*Members Only)**

Subject: Any. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Kentucky State Poetry Society. 1st Prize: \$25. 2nd Prize: \$20. 3rd Prize: \$15.

***37. HUMOROUS POETRY AWARD (*Members Only)**

Subject: Humorous. Form: Rhymed. 16 line limit. Sponsored by Colleen Stanley Bare. 1st Prize: \$25. 2nd Prize: \$20. 3rd Prize: \$15.

38. BARBARA STEVENS MEMORIAL AWARD

Subject: Any Serious Theme. Form: Any. 12 line limit. Sponsored by the South Dakota Poetry Society. 1st Prize: \$25. 2nd Prize: \$20. 3rd Prize: \$15.

***39. ALICE MAKENZIE SWAIM MEMORIAL AWARD (*Members Only)**

Subject: Any. Form: Traditional Sonnet (indicate sonnet pattern on entry). Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Poetry Society, Inc. 1st Prize: \$25. 2nd Prize: \$20. 3rd Prize: \$15

***40. POETRY SOCIETY OF OKLAHOMA AWARD (*Members Only)**

In memory of Clark Elliott Subject: Any. Form: Trimeric –13 line limit. Sponsored by the Poetry Society of Oklahoma. 1st Prize: \$25. 2nd Prize: \$20. 3rd Prize: \$15.

41. SAVE OUR EARTH AWARD

In memory of David F. Balph. Subject: Environmental Issues. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by Martha H. Balph. 1st Prize: \$25. 2nd Prize: \$20. 3rd Prize: \$15.

42. MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

Subject: Any. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Massachusetts State Poetry Society. 1st Prize: \$25. 2nd Prize: \$20. 3rd Prize: \$15.

***43. POETRY SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE AWARD (*Members Only)**

In memory of Michael Dennington. Subject: Any. Form: Any, but poem must contain references to at least three of the five senses. 30 line limit. Sponsored by the Poetry Society of Tennessee. 1st Prize: \$25. 2nd Prize: \$20. 3rd Prize: \$15.

44. IOWA POETRY ASSOCIATION AWARD

Subject: Poetry For Children. Form: Any. 32 line limit. Sponsored by the Iowa Poetry Association. 1st Prize: \$25. 2nd Prize: \$20. 3rd Prize: \$15.

45. WYOPOETS AWARD

Subject: Any. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the WyoPoets of Wyoming. 1st Prize: \$25. 2nd Prize: \$20. 3rd Prize: \$15.

***46. SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION AWARD (*Members Only)**

Subject: A river runs through it.... Form: Any. 32 line limit. Sponsored by the San Antonio Poets Association, a chapter of the Poetry Society of Texas for 39 years. 1st Prize: \$25. 2nd Prize: \$20. 3rd Prize: \$15.

47. MAINE POETS SOCIETY AWARD

Subject: the Sea or Seacoast. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Maine Poets Society, fostering poetry since 1936. 1st Prize: \$25. 2nd Prize: \$20. 3rd Prize: \$15.

***48. MIRIAM S. STRAUSS MEMORIAL AWARD (*Members Only)**

Subject: Any. Form: Terza Rima Sonnet – 14 lines Iambic Pentameter, rhyme scheme: aba bcb cdc ded ee Sponsored by Russell H. Strauss. 1st Prize: \$25. 2nd Prize: \$20. 3rd Prize: \$15.

***49. THE POETS NORTHWEST AWARD (*Members Only)**

Subject: Any. Form: Any. 36 line limit. Sponsored by Poets Northwest, a chapter of the Poetry Society of Texas, celebrating 32 years of encouraging and inspiring poets in their craft. 1st Prize: \$25. 2nd Prize: \$20. 3rd Prize: \$15.

50. STUDENT AWARD

Subject: Any. Form: Any. 32 line limit. Sponsored by Nancy Baass and the NFSPS. 1st Prize: \$50. 2nd Prize: \$30. 3rd Prize: \$20. 7 Honorable Mentions: \$5 each.

No entry fee required. Open only to students in grades 9 thru 12. Include grade with name and summer mailing address on the second copy only (See Contest Rule 11).