NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE POETRY SOCIETIES, INC.

An educational and literary organization dedicated to the writing and appreciation of poetry in America.



www.nfsps.com

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Eleanor Berry 31st NFSPS President

Dear NFSPS Poets:

I am writing this column in the wake of the 2015 NFSPS Convention, hosted by the Florida State Poets Association in St. Petersburg. I've barely recovered from jetlag, and my head is swirling with memories of poems and conversations. I'm eager to see what I can do with the workshop draft poems in my new tangerine-covered notebook and to dip into the collections of Florida poetry that I brought home with me to become better acquainted with poets I met in St. Petersburg and with traditions I learned about in convention presentations. I'm also eager to browse more in the handsome new issue of *Encore*—to experience afresh in its pages the winning poems that I heard performed a year ago at the 2014 convention in Salt Lake City.

But before I immerse myself in the "treasure" I gathered in "poetry's place in the sun," I want to share with you some of what the NFSPS board is undertaking in your behalf.

The primary purpose of everything we board members do is to increase the value of NFSPS affiliation for state societies and to help strengthen those societies. To that end, we try to make information and resources available to all state society members. We also seek to create opportunities for officers of affiliated societies to share ideas and to discuss approaches to common problems.

This newsletter has long been the Federation's principal means of informing its members all across the country, and, especially in its online version (free of the space constraints that limit the content of the print version), it has increasingly supplemented its core of information about events and contests with members' advice on poetic practice. The NFSPS website has been, and continues to be, the place to find complete guidelines for all the Federation's single-poem contests and manuscript competitions, as well as listings of all its publications, with ordering information. Over the past year or so, these have been supplemented by an NFSPS Facebook page, providing immediate news with plenty of pictures.

Starting this summer, we will have a new site where state society members can find materials that have not been readily accessible until now. NFSPS Webmaster Billy Pennington is setting up a secure, password-protected area, which can serve as a repository of documents such as the Federation's bylaws and its officers' annual reports, and of resources such as listings of speakers, workshop leaders, and judges. It may also include a chatroom where state presidents can discuss their concerns and share ideas.

One of our goals for this site is to extend throughout the year the sort of mutually supportive exchange that occurred during the state presidents' meeting at the convention in St. Petersburg. The discussion there focused on two main areas of concern that had been articulately raised in an email sent me by Dawnell Griffin, President of the Utah State Poetry Society, who was unable to attend the convention: (1) the aging of society membership and the concomitant need for "encouraging younger people to join . . . and to accept responsible positions"; (2) the perennial need to raise money to finance programs.

With regard to financing, Judy Davies, President of the Mississippi Poetry Society and an experienced grant writer, gave advice on obtaining grants. The convention program booklet, with handsome display ads from sponsors, provided an example of sponsorships as another way in which state societies can get funding without hiking fees.

Ways of engaging younger generations in our societies is the focus the NFSPS Youth Activities Committee, chaired by Steven Concert. This year's Youth Awards to state societies named the specific activities for which they were being recognized. Many of these involved ways of publicizing student contests and recognizing the winners and their teachers. Some were for programs outside the accustomed range. Among these were a Poetry to Go program, conducted by the Columbine Poets of Colorado, that put student poems on buses in every metro area, and Farm Fest participation by the New River Poets chapter of FSPA, teaching lessons with poetry in an historic schoolhouse. Also recognized with awards given by the Youth Chair were fourteen individuals who had gone "above and beyond" the expected to support young poets. [continued on page 8]

POETRY'S PLACE IN THE SUN NFSPS 2015 CONVENTION SUMMARY

From June 24th to 28th, more than 130 poets from all over the United States gathered to "Discover the Treasure of Poetry's Place in the Sun" at the 2015 annual convention of NFSPS held in the Hilton Bayfront Hotel, St. Petersburg, Florida.

Newly-appointed Florida State Poet Laureate Peter Meinke, along with Joe Cavanaugh, President the Florida State Poets Association, and NFSPS President Eleanor Berry welcomed us as we began an exciting journey into Florida's poetry, geographically, historically, culturally, and imaginatively. We were treated to readings, workshops and presentations that spotlighted over 20 poets from young to older and to many poetic forms, some familiar as a sonnet and some that stretched the edges of our comfortable Thesaurus.

Thank you to NFSPS Treasurer Lucille Morgan Wilson who engineered the NFSPS Contests winners and awards during meal times. FSPA Youth Poetry Chair Janet Watson presented pirate beads to all winners and honorable mention recipients as a memento of their Florida treasure. We were treated to a nautical program and invasion from Blackbeard's Pirate Krewe on Friday evening accompanied on the concertina by Jan Shumliak and partner playing hornpipes, gigs, and reels, and handing out more beads to all the poets attending the lively reception.

Open Poetry Readings stretched far into the night as we shared our best poems with each other and made friends with poets who seek to energize the craft and learn best practices from one another. Surrealist Poetry, Erasure Poetry, Cow-Hunting Poetry, Ethnicity in Poetry, The Power of Partnership, and Performance Poetry were presentations enthusiastically received. We had an opportunity to hear from practicing Florida poets who explained how they respond to their muse. The Florida State Slam Team was chosen and will attend the national competition in California in 2016.

The Convention Bookstore, directed by FSPA Secretary Mary-Ann Westbrook, did a landslide business. We thank Pineapple Press (Sarasota, FL) for their complimentary copies of *Florida in Poetry: A History of the Imagination*, ed. Jones & O'Sullivan, which was given out to all attendees. FSPA volunteers and NFSPS volunteers all worked together to make the 2015 convention truly a Treasure to Remember. In *The Shape of Poetry*, Peter Meinke writes, "I think those in the profession—the calling—of writing poetry should be knowledgeable and skilled as any carpenter, passionate and dignified as any priest. I believe those who are able to spend large stretches of their lives engaged in this activity are the luckiest people in the world." And, indeed, we are. ~ Judith Krum, FSPA Treasurer and Registrar for the 2015 NFSPS Convention.

2016 NATIONAL CONVENTION IN ST. PAUL MINNESOTA MAGIC—A CAPITOL CONVENTION!

The League of Minnesota Poets will host the June 9-12, 2016 NFSPS convention in St. Paul. Located in an iconic, century-old building in the heart of downtown Saint Paul's business district, Hotel 340 is the region's premier boutique hotel.

Keynote speaker will be Natalie Goldberg, author of *Writing Down The Bones: Freeing The Writer Within* (1986), which broke open the world of creativity and started a revolution in the way we practice writing. The book has sold over one million copies and been translated into fourteen languages. Since then Ms. Goldberg has written thirteen other books, including the novel *Banana Rose*.

We have special room rates: \$139 a night for suites, \$119 a night for standard rooms, and \$89 a night for efficiency rooms. Room rates include a continental breakfast. Guests must make their reservations by April 24, 2016. Call 1-651-280-4120 to make reservations and refer to the League of Minnesota Poets for these rates.

August 2015

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF

STATE POETRY SOCIETIES, INC. Organized October 17, 1959 ~ Mary B. Wall, Founder

Honorary Chancellor: Peter Meinke

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ARKANSAS: Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas Dennis R. Patton, President ~ 2512 Springhill Circle, Alexander, AR 72002 ~ patton_dr@hotmail.com

CALIFORNIA: California State Poetry Society Dr. John Forrest Harrell, Treasurer ~ P.O. Box 7126, Orange, CA 92863 ~ JFHarrell@gmail.com

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CONNECTICUT: Connecticut Poetry Society Tony Fusco, President ~ 311 Shingle Hill Road, West Haven, CT 06516 ~ tfusco357@gmail.com

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STROPHES

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Paul Ford, *Strophes* Editor 10239 Hickory Pt. Dr., Sandy, UT 84092-3960 pmford3@yahoo.com

* Submission Deadlines

Strophes is available without cost to all paid-up members of NFSPS member state societies when mailed/shipped in bulk to the president or other designated person, who is responsible for ordering the number needed by the submission deadline for each issue. Individual subscriptions are \$4.00 a year to cover handling costs. Special orders are mailed separately. To order a single issue: specify the issue ordered, include a #10 SASE and \$1.00 per copy.

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NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE POETRY 2nd Paula J. Lambert, Dublin, OH SOCIETIES

2015 ANNUAL CONTEST WINNERS

1. NFSPS FOUNDERS AWARD [to honor Mary B.

Wall] \$1500 \$500 \$250 (352 entries) Judge: Hilda Raz, Placitas, NM 1st Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT "The Whole Pie" 2nd David Bond, Carbondale, IL "Twenty-four Lines Originally for Brigit" 3rd Diane Glancy, Shawnee Mission, KS "Wolf Lays Down" 1HM Doris DiSavino, Lancaster, PA 2HM Judy Johns, Pleasant View, UT 3HM Paula J. Lambert, Dublin, OH 4HM Davi Walders, Chevy Chase, MD 5HM Milton J. Bates, Marquette, MI 6HM Valerie Martin Bailey, San Antonio, TX 7HM No 7th HM due to disqualification

2. WINNERS CIRCLE AWARD

\$500 \$300 \$200 (225 entries) Judge: Doris Stengel, Brainerd, MN (alt. judge) 1st Dave Harvey, Talent, OR "A Mensch at Table" 2nd David Wayne Handley, Rockville, IN "Ouoth the Shopper, Nevermore" 3rd Markay Brown, St. George, UT "Taking Waters" 1HM Larry Hand, Woodstock, GA 2HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX 3HM Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL 4HM Geraldine Felt, Layton, UT 5HM Lynda La Rocca, Twin Lakes, CO 6HM Lynne Elise Benson, Taylorsville, UT 7HM Michael Bourgo, Boalsburg, PA

3. PEACE AWARD

\$500 \$300 \$200 (124 entries) Judge: Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX 1st Elzy Cogswell, Austin, TX "Where We Swim in the Real World" 2nd Eleanor Berry, Lyons, OR "Tour Guide's Translation" 3rd Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL "Skilti Kas Ras" 1HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX 2HM Doris Stengel, Brainerd, MN 3HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT 4HM Karen Hayes, North Little Rock, AR 5HM Rebecca A. Bailey, Grangeville, ID 6HM June Gerron, Santa Rosa, CA 7HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN

4. THE M&S POETRY WRITING CONTEST

\$300 \$125 \$75 (227 entries) Judge: Eric Read, Brigham City, UT 1st Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX "The Eloquent Shepherd" 2nd Diane Franco, Huntington Woods, MI "In the Warmth of the Sun" 3rd Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX "Elizabeth Eckford" 1HM Kim Gearlds, Troy, MI 2HM Iman Fears, New York, NY 3HM Catherine L'Herisson, Garland, TX 4HM Michael Escoubas, Bloomington, IL 5HM Juanita Watts, Layton, UT 6HM Mary Jo Maguire, Englewood, CO 7HM Marilyn Stacy, Dallas, TX

5. THE MARGO AWARD \$225 \$125 \$75 (171 entries)

Judge: Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN 1st Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO "In the House of Opportunity"

Why an Open Window is so Much Better Than a Ceiling Fan"

3rd Kolette Montague, Centerville, UT "Ode to a Window" 1HM Pauline Mounsey, Sun City West, AZ 2HM Rachel Kellum, Snyder, CO 3HM Carie Juettner, Austin, TX 4HM Sandi Keaton-Wilson, Somerset, KY 5HM Charlotte Abernathy, Ashland, OR 6HM Julie L. George, Muskegon, MI 7HM Vicki Wilke, Clarkston, MI

*6. DONALD STODGHILL MEMORIAL

AWARD (*Members Only) \$200 \$100 \$50 (190 entries) - Judge: Christine Beck, West Hartford, CT 1st Milton J. Bates, Marquette, MI "Transmigration" 2nd Elaine Zimmerman, Hamden, CT "Charred Oak" 3rd Alexander Drummond, Salida, CO "From That Morning On" 1HM Jean Bell, Evergreen, CO 2HM Anita Jepson, Westminster, CO 3HM Charles K. Firmage, Boise, ID 4HM Paula J. Lambert, Dublin, OH 5HM Rachel Kellum, Snyder, CO 6HM Roberta Marggraff, Waterbury, CT 7HM Sarah E. Morin, Fishers, IN

***7. GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY AWARD** (*Members Only) \$150 \$75 \$25 (110 entries) Judge: Jeremy M. Downes, Auburn, AL 1st Lynne Elise Benson, Taylorsville, UT "Trailing Vines" 2nd Richard R. Cuyler, Salida, CO

"Sagotiate" 3rd Dennis Herschbach, Sartell, MN Chalmers Street, Charleston, SC" 1HM Paula J. Lambert, Dublin, OH 2HM Davi Walders, Chevy Chase, MD 3HM Kate Hoffman, Bellefonte, PA 4HM Jan Benson, Fort Worth, TX

5HM Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR 6HM Pauline Mounsey, Sun City West, AZ 7HM J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak, TX

***8. POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS AWARD**

(*Members Only) \$125 \$50 \$25 (185 entries) Judge: Julia George, Muskegon, MI 1st Christine H. Boldt, Temple, TX "A Mark for Distinction" 2nd Loretta Diane Walker, Odessa, TX "Music Lesson" 3rd Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA "Paper Trail" 1HM Wade Martin, Austin, TX 2HM Janice L. Freytag, Souderton, PA 3HM Carie Juettner, Austin, TX 4HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT 5HM Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL 6HM M. B. LaWent, Ishpeming, MI 7HM Doris Stengel, Brainerd, MN

9. THE NFSPS BOARD AWARD

\$150 \$70 \$50 (128 entries) Judge: Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA 1st Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA "April Fool" 2nd Steve Leitch, West Jordan, UT "Sixties-Something Hippies" 3rd Shirley Valencia, Dayton, OH "Time Bending Neverending" 1HM Doris DiSavino, Lancaster, PA 2HM Becky Alexander, Cambridge, Ont., Canada 3HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN 4HM Jamie Morewood Anderson, Cedar Crest, NM 5HM Marta Rijn Finch, Bennington, VT 6HM Jim Barton, Huttig, AR 7HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX

10. UTAH STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD

\$100 \$60 \$40 (174entries) Judge: Andrea L. Watson, Denver, CO 1st Jamie Morewood Anderson, Cedar Crest, NM "On Visiting the Old Farms" 2nd Marcia Jones, Golden, CO "Northern Light" 3rd Doris DiSavino, Lancaster, PA "Where I'm From" 1HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN 2HM Mia Nelson, Denver, CO 3HM Pauline Mounsey, Sun City West, AZ 4HM Barbara J. Funke, St. George, UT 5HM Joyce Kohler, Midway UT 6HM Vera Ogden Bakker, West Bountiful, UT 7HM Diana Franco, Huntington Woods, MI

*11. AL LASTER MEMORIAL AWARD

(*Members Only) \$100 \$50 \$25 (156 entries) Judge: Jim Haendiges, St. George, UT

1st Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield, TX "Descending a Staircase, the Nude"

2nd Barbara Blanks, Garfield, TX "Lady in Gray"

3rd Francie Rountree, Saute Nacoche, GA "Painting at Cap-Haitien Market" 1HM Marcia Jones, Golden CO 2HM Terry Jude Miller, Richmond, TX 3HM Frances Brinkley Cowden, Cordova, TN 4HM J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak, TX 5HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX 6HM No 6th HM due to disqualification 7HM No 7th HM due to disqualification

12. FLORIDA STATE POETS ASSOCIATION

AWARD \$100 \$50 \$25 (52 entries) Judge: Ruth F. Harrison, Waldport, OR 1st Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL "The Old Cypress" 2nd Davi Walders, Chevy Chase, MD "Dear Mrs. Bethune" 3rd Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL "Windover Pond" 1HM Barbara Monsey, Sunrise, FL 2HM Kaye Bache-Snyder, Longmont, CO 3HM Sandra Lake Lassen, West Jefferson, NC 4HM Candy Lish Fowler, St. George, UT

5HM Deborah Rohde, Northbrook, IL 6HM Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT 7HM Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX

13. ALABAMA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD (\$75 \$50 \$25 161 entries) Judge: Marilyn Stacy, Dallas, TX 1st Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT "New Bearings" 2nd Jil Jennings, Woodstock, GA "That Thing With Feathers" 3rd Irene Hastings, Heber, UT "Awakening" 1HM Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL

2HM Valerie Martin Bailey, San Antonio, TX 3HM Milton J. Bates, Marquette, MI 4HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT 5HM Jeani M. Picklesimer, Ashland, KY 6HM Steven Leitch, West Jordan, UT 7HM Charlotte Abernathy, Ashland, OR

14. ARIZONA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD \$75 \$30 \$20 (60 entries) Judge: Danielle Beazer Dubrasky, Cedar City, UT

1st Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO "Ready or Not"

2nd Lynn Marie Houston, Newburgh, NY "How to Win" 3rd Eleanor Berry, Lyons, OR

"Steed" 1HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX 2HM Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT 3HM Connie Johnson (Kramer), Prescott Valley, AZ 4HM Diane Glancy, Shawnee Mission, KS 5HM Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN 6HM Pauline Mounsey, Sun City West, AZ 7HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN

*15. MILDRED VORPAHL BAASS

REMEMBERENCE AWARD (*Members Only)
\$60 \$40 \$20 (115 entries)
Judge: Joe Cavanaugh, Ormond Beach, FL
1st Mary Rudbeck Stanko, London, Ont., Canada "Mysticats"
2nd K. Hamblen, Baton Rogue, LA "My Suicidal Jew"
3rd Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA "Panther Hill Rosetta of Coonsworth"
1HM Warren Jones, Owensville, IN
2HM Marta Rijn Finch, Bennington, VT

3HM Clarence P. Socwell, Ogden, UT

- 4HM Lee Pellam Cotton, Locust Hill, VA
- 5HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL
- 6HM Becky Alexander, Cambridge, Ont., Canada
- 7HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX

16. LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA AWARD \$60 \$40 \$20 (219 entries) - Judge: A. Molotkov, Portland, OR 1st Caroline Johnson, Willow Springs, IL

"Gliding"

2nd Rachel Kellum, Snyder, CO "Three Degrees Below Freezing: If There Is Enough Light To See" 3rd Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO

"Years Later, I Remember What He Taught Us" IHM Elaine Zimmerman, Hamden, CT 2HM Charlotte Abernathy, Ashland, OR 3HM Mary E. McManus, Des Moines, IA 4HM Dory Maguire, Dillsburg, PA 5HM Kolette Montague, Centerville, UT 6HM Robert La Fleur, Ponsford, MN 7HM Mary Rudbeck Stanko, London, Ont., Canada

17. NEVADA POETRY SOCIETY AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20 (184 entries) Judge: Janeen Pergrin Rastall, Marquette, MI 1st Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL

"Fireworks"
^{and} Kolette Montague, Centerville, UT "Thirteen Steps to a Haunted House"
^{and} Eleanor Berry, Lyons, OR "Winter Feast"
^{and} HM Charlotte Abernathy, Ashland, OR
^{and} Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
^{and} Wicky Dovenspike, Salem, IA
^{and} HM Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO
^{bn} Alice B. Couch, Noblesville, IN
^{bn} GHM Paula J. Lambert, Dublin, OH

7HM Nancy Merical, Ripley, WV

18. INDIANA STATE FEDERATION OF

POETRY CLUBS AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20
 (178 entries) - Judge: Grace Curtis, Waynesville, OH
 1st Chet Taylor, Seguin, TX

 "Nobody Knows the Truffles I've Seen"

 2nd Diane Glancy, Shawnee, KS

 "Full Moon"

 3rd Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX

 "The Migration Suite"

1HM Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT

- 2HM Margaret Gleave, Ainsdale Southport, UK
- 3HM Mo H. Saidi, San Antonio, TX 4HM Martha P. Morrise, Roy, UT

5HM Brittany Wyatt, Los Lunas, NM 6HM Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR 7HM Evelyn Corry Appelbee, Henderson, TX

19. WILLIAM STAFFORD MEMORIAL

19. WILLIAN STAFFORD MEMORIAL
AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20 (207 entries)
Darren M. Edwards, Washington, UT
1st Christine H. Boldt, Temple, TX
 "Some Say"
2nd Liz Dolan, Rehoboth Beach, DE
 "After Grievous Loss, Except for Stunning
 Dreams"
3rd Trina Lee, Oklahoma City, OK
 "Sidney"
1HM Shirley Elliott Cosby, Emory, TX
2HM Wade Martin, Austin, TX
3HM Karen Mastracchio, Spring, TX
4HM Loretta Diane Walker, Odessa, TX
5HM Carol Clark Williams, York, PA
6HM Pat Durmon, Norfolk, AR

7HM Sandra Lake Lassen, West Jefferson, WV

20. THE NEW YORK POETRY FORUM

AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20 (181 entries)
Judge: Liz Glodek, Indianola, IA
1st Donna Pucciani, Wheaton, IL "How Language Lives"
2nd Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR "One Spring Day"
3rd Ray Reeder, Albuquerque, NM "Word Draught"
1HM Warren Jones, Owensville, IN
2HM Iman Fears, New York, NY
3HM Margaret D. Anderegg, Odessa, TX
4HM Wade Martin, Austin, TX
5HM Julia L. George, Muskegon, MI
6HM Paula J. Lambert, Dublin, OH
7HM Cynthia Weber Nankee, Canton, MI

*21. COLUMBINE POETS OF COLORADO

AWARD (*Members Only) \$50 \$30 \$20 (100 entries) - Judge: Laurence W. Thomas, Ypsilanti, MI
1st Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT "Symphony of Time"
2nd Neal Huffaker, Norman, OK "Good Riddance"
3rd Mary A. Couch, Noblesville, IN "Winter"
1HM Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR
2HM Robert Schinzel, Highland Village, TX
3HM Karen Hayes, North Little Rock, AR
4HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX
5HM Juanita Watts, Layton, UT
6HM Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
7HM Doris Stengel, Brainerd, MN

22. MORTON D. PROUTY & ELSIE S. PROUTY

MEMORIAL AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20 (224 entries)
Judge: Laura L. Hansen, Little Falls, MN
1st Elaine Zimmerman, Hamden, CT "Ocean in a Jar"
2nd David Bond, Carbondale, IL "Saint Luke's Summer"
3rd Caroline Wilson, Willow Springs, IL "The Bird Watcher"
1HM Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
2HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
3HM Dennis Herschbach, Sartell, MN
4HM Diane Glancy, Shawnee Mission, KS
5HM Jennifer O'Conner, Rochester Hills, MI
6HM Christine Valentine, Birney, MT
7HM Linda K. Moore, Bogart, GA

*23. POETS ROUNDTABLE OF ARKANSAS AWARD (*Members Only) \$50 \$30 \$20 (186

entries) - Judge: Charlotte Renk, Athens, TX

1st Donna Pucciani, Wheaton, IL
 "Open Rehearsal"
 2nd Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT

"About-Face" **3rd Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX** "A Thread Too Slender" 1HM Diane Glancy, Shawnee Mission, KS 2HM Markay Brown, St. George, UT 3HM Wade Martin, Austin, TX 4HM Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield, TX 5HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX 6HM Betty Ann Whitney, Wesley Chapel, FL 7HM No 7th HM due to disqualification

24. LOUISIANA STATE POETRY SOCIETY

AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20 (122 entries)
Judge: Sandy Hokanson, Cumming, GA
1st Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT "Emily's Birthday"
2nd Barbara J. Funke, St. George, UT "Dinner Party for Five"
3rd Becky Lindsay, Crestview Hills, KY "The Night You Wore the Red Hat"
1HM Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL
2HM Becky Alexander, Cambridge, Ont. Canada
3HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL
4HM Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL
5HM Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN
6HM Pat Underwood, Colfax, IA

25. AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE AWARD

7HM Kitty Mobley, Pinehurst, TX

(*Members Only) \$50 \$30 \$20 (116 entries)
Judge: Professor Kimberly Blaeser, Burlington, WI
1st Susan Stevens Chambers, Good Thunder, MN "Night's Testimony"
2nd Wade Martin, Austin, TX "Cochise Negotiates With the Maytag Man"
3rd Joyce Kohler. Midway, UT "Dineh Girl"
1HM Joy McDowell, Springfield, OR
2HM Markay Brown, St. George, UT
3HM Jamie Morewood Anderson, Cedar Crest, NM
4HM Jim Barton, Huttig, AR
5HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL
6HM Madelyn Eastlund, Beverly Hills, FL
7HM Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL

*26. VIOLET NEWTON MEMORIAL AWARD

(***Members Only**) \$50 \$30 \$20 (179 entries) Judge: Shirley Ensrud, Blue Earth, MN

1st Barbara Green Powell, Beaumont, TX "A Poet's Garden"

2nd Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN "Day Labor"

3rd Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO "Translation"

1HM Mary Willette Hughes, Waite Park, MN 2HM Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI

3HM Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR

4HM Kitty Mobley, Pinehurst, TX

- 5HM Kolette Montague, Centerville, UT
- 6HM Alexander Drummond, Salida, CO

7HM D. Beecher Smith II, Memphis, TN

27.* CLAIRE VAN BREEMAN DOWNES MEMORIAL AWARD (*Members Only) \$50 \$30 \$20 (116 entries) -

- Judge: John F. Foster, Sun City Center, FL
- 1st Alison Chisholm, Birkdale, Southport, UK "Incident at Stratford Marina"
- 2nd Dave Harvey, Talent, OR
- "Man, Descending Stairs"
- 3rd Ray Reeder, Albuquerque, NM "Sonnet V"

1HM Betsy M. Hughes, Dayton, OH 2HM Neal Huffaker, Norman, OK

3HM Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI 4HM Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX 5HM Barbara J. Funke, St. George, UT 6HM Shirley Elliott Cosby, Emory, TX 7HM Lynda La Rocca, Twin Lakes, CO

*28. OHIO AWARD (*Members Only) \$50 \$25 \$15 (189 entries) Judge: J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak, TX 1st Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA "Out of Angst, the Re-Creation"

2nd Evelyn Corry Appelbee, Henderson, TX "Resurrection"

3rd Kolette Montague, Centerville, UT "Visiting the House of Four Winds"
1HM Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA
2HM Diana Franco, Huntington Woods, MI
3HM Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL
4HM Markay Brown, St. George, UT
5HM Pauline Mounsey, Sun City West, AZ
6HM Grace Diane Jessen, Glenwood, UT
7HM N. Colwell Snell, Salt Lake City, UT

29. ILLINOIS STATE POETRY SOCIETY

AWARD \$40 \$30 \$20 (56 entries) Judge: Amy Miller, Ashland, OR 1st Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT "Gardening With Abe"

2nd Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield, TX "Lincoln's Last Dream"

3rd Mo H. Saidi, San Antonio, TX "The American Experiment"
1HM Diane Glancy, Shawnee Mission, KS
2HM Karen Kay Bailey, Blanchard, OK
3HM John D. McBride, Bettendorf, IA
4HM Laverna B. Johnson, St. George, UT
5HM Liz Dolan, Rehoboth Beach, DE
6HM Trina Lee, Oklahoma City, OK

7HM Grace Diane Jessen, Glenwood, UT

*30. MINUTE AWARD (*Members Only) \$35 \$25

\$15 (85 entries)

Judge: D. Gary Christian, Santa Clara, UT 1st Cynthia Weber Nankee, Canton, MI

"Highway, 10 pm"
 2nd Shirley Elliott Cosby, Emory, TX

"First Steps"

3rd Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT "Winter Revival"

1HM N. Colwell Snell, Salt Lake City, UT 2HM Robert Schinzel, Highland Village, TX 3HM Barbara J. Funke, St. George, UT 4HM Brenda Miller, Orville, OH

5HM Larry Hand, Woodstock, GA

6HM Pat Bastendorf, Panama City, FL

7HM Alison Chisholm, Birkdale, Southport, UK

31. POETRY SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN AWARD

\$35 \$25 \$15 (189 entries)

Judge: Janice Hornburg, Johnson City, TN
1st D. Beecher Smith II, Memphis, TN "Icarus Ascending"
2nd Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX "South Dakota in Autumn"
3rd Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT "Mass for the Reverent Corpus"
1HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT
2HM James Ph. Kotsybar, Lompoc, CA
3HM Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL
4HM Evelyn Corry Appelbee, Henderson, TX
5HM Diane Glancy, Shawnee Mission, KS

6HM Mary A. Couch, Noblesville, IN

7HM Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX

32. JESSE STUART MEMORIAL AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (170 entries) Judge: Ginny Lowe Conners, W. Hartford, CT

1st Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL "At the Vocational Training Center"
2nd Jon Sebba, Murray, UT "What I Was"
3rd Brian Volz, Stuart, IA "Calligrapher's Quill"
1HM Gail Denham, Sunriver, OR
2HM Christine H. Boldt, Temple, TX
3HM Beth Staas, LaGrange Park, IL
4HM Karen Gibson, Provo, UT
5HM Mary A. Couch, Noblesville, IN
6HM Taney A. Brazeal, Fairhope, AL
7HM Annie Neugebauer, Denton, TX

*33. HUMOROUS POETRY AWARD (*Members

Only) \$25 \$20 \$15 (144 entries) Judge: Jim Elberling, Egan, MN
1st Doyle R. Wood, Archer City, TX "December Dream"
2nd Barry Fiedler, Evergreen, CO "Prophesy"
3rd Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL "I'm So Analog"
1HM Dena R. Gorrell, Edmond, OK
2HM Elza Cogswell, Austin, TX
3HM Catherine L'Herisson, Garland, TX
4HM Jim Barton, Huttig, AR
5HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, TX
6HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
7HM Vicky Dovenspike, Salem, IA

34. BARBARA STEVENS MEMORIAL AWARD

\$25 \$20 \$15 (207 entries)
Judge: Ed Brekke-Kramer, Fairmont, MN
1st Carol Brockford, Medford, OR "The Least of Them"
2nd Jamie Morewood Anderson, Cedar Crest, NM "Mouse"
3rd Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA "Masque of the Dark Romancer"
1HM Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI
2HM Elzy Cogswell, Austin, TX
3HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL
4HM Betty Ann Whitney, Wesley Chapel, FL
5HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT
6HM Nancy Simmonds, Fort Wayne, IN
7HM Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA

***35. DORMAN JOHN GRACE MEMORIAL AWARD (*Members Only) \$25** \$20 \$15 (97 entries) Judge: Steve Abbott, Columbus, OH

 ^{1st} Margaret Gleave, Ainsdale, Southport, UK "Recycled"
 ^{2nd} Alison Chisholm, Birkdale, Southport, UK "Birthplace"
 ^{3rd} Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN "Questions from a Shoe Sleuth"

1HM Kitty Yeager, Arkadelphia, AR 2HM Wade Martin, Austin, TX 3HM Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL 4HM Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA 5HM Sara Gipson, Scott. AR 6HM Doyle R. Wood, Archer City, TX 7HM Elzy Gogswell, Austin, TX

*36. POETRY SOCIETY OF OKLAHOMA

AWARD (*Members Only) \$25 \$20 \$15 (123 entries) - Judge: Kerry Trautman, Findlay, OH 1st Alexander Drummond, Salida, CO "The Day Before You Died" 2nd N. Colwell Snell, Salt Lake City, UT

"Last Hug" 3rd Annie Neugebauer, Denton, TX

"Strolling in Iambic Pentameter" 1HM Beth Staas, LaGrange Park, IL 2HM Terry Jude Miller, Richmond, TX 3HM Markay Brown, St. George, UT 4HM Wilda Morris, Bolingbrook, IL 5HM Joan Kantor, Collinsville, CT 6HM Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX 7HM Jerry Long, Muskegon, MI

37. SAVE OUR EARTH AWARD

6HM Meg Eden Kuyatt, College Park, MD7HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN38. MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY

SOCIETY AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (164 entries) Judge: Lisa Salinas, Spring, TX 1st Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX

"Eudora Welty Photographs of Depression" 2nd Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR "A Number Away"

3rd Dian S. Barnett, Marietta, GA "Impressionistic Study in Monochrome"
1HM Lucile Beck Quinn, Columbus, OH
2HM Carie Juettner, Austin, TX
3HM Christine H. Boldt, Temple, TX
4HM Terry Jude Miller, Richmond, TX
5HM Susan Maxwell Campbell, Mansfield, TX
6HM Alexander Drummond, Salida, CO
7HM Carol Clark Williams, York, PA

*39. POETRY SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE

AWARD (*Members Only) \$25 \$20 \$15 (78 entries)
Judge: Marta Rijn Finch, Old Bennington, VT
1st Caroline Sposto, Memphis, TN "Pontius Pilate"
2nd Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT "Commute"
3rd Janet Watson, Wesley Chapel, FL "Dancing With a Hurricane"
1HM Neal Huffaker, Norman, OK
2HM Robert Schinzel, Highland Village, TX
3HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX

4HM Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX

5HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN

6HM Dian S, Barnett, Marietta, GA 7HM Martha P. Morrise, Roy, UT

40. IOWA POETRY ASSOCIATION AWARD \$25

\$20 \$15 (129 entries)

Judge: Todd M. Bailey, Kingsport, TN

1st Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT

"Grandpa's Old Barn"

2nd Louise Cook, Sandy, UT

"Shwell and Greis"

3rd Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL "Trouble"

1HM Caroline Walton, Crystal River, FL

2HM Shirley Valencia, Dayton, OH

3HM Naomi Stroud Simmons, Fort Worth, TX

4HM Leslie C. Halpern, Oviedo, FL

5HM Mary Zachmeyer, Mt. Pleasant, IA

6HM Pat Underwood, Colfax, IA 7HM Ray Reeder, Albuquerque, NM

41. WYOPOETS AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15

(170 entries) - Judge: Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR

1st Loretta Diane Walker, Odessa, TX "A Poet's Breakfast" 2nd Patricia Barnes, Wyandotte, MI "Seven Ways to Steal"
3rd Carie Juettner, Austin, TX "Underneath"
1HM Dena R. Gorrell, Edmond, OK
2HM Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR
3HM Nancy Merical, Ripley, WV
4HM Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL
5HM Geraldine Felt, Layton, UT
6HM Jamie Morewood Anderson, Cedar Crest, NM
7HM John D. McBride, Bettendorf, IA

42. MISSISSIPPI POTRY SOCIETY AWARD \$25

\$20 \$15 (108 entries)
Judge: Mary-Ann Westbrook, Ormond Beach, FL
1st Judith Tullis, Indian Head Park, IL "Remembered"
2nd Steven Leitch, West Jordan, UT "Going Blind"
3rd Shirley Ensrud, Blue Earth, MN "A Gem in Our Walk"
1HM Joel Passey, Layton, UT
2HM Elza Cogswell, Austin, TX
3HM Lisa Salinas, Spring, TX
4HM Marilyn Downing, Hershey, PA
5HM Karen Mastracchio, Spring, TX
6HM Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL
7HM Beth Turner Ayers, Plano, TX

*43. GINGERBREAD POETS AWARD

(*Members Only) \$25 \$20 \$15 (68 entries)
Judge: Ms. B. J. Alligood, port Orange, FL
1st Maria Weber, Buena Vista, CO "Miss Ada"
2nd Jamie Morewood Anderson, Cedar Crest, NM "Sugar Peaches"
3rd Madelyn Eastlund, Beverly Hills, FL "For Peter Pan and Wendy"
1HM Carie Juettner, Austin, TX
2HM Budd Powell Mahan, Dallas, TX
3HM Russell H. Strauss, Memphis, TN
4HM Dave Harvey, Talent, OR
5HM Warren Jones, Owensville, IN

6HM Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT

7HM Evelyn Corry Appelbee, Henderson, TX

*44. SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION

AWARD (*Members Only) \$25 \$20 \$15 (57 entries) Judge: Sonja Kosler, Dent, MN 1st Jim Barton, Huttig, AR "Immigrant Song"

2nd Grace Diane Jessen, Glenwood, UT "The Alamo"

3rd Patti Hannaway, Wesley Chapel, FL "The Little Tin Whistle"

1HM Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA

2HM Stephanie Andrews, Melbourne Beach, FL

3HM Wade Martin, Austin, TX

- 4HM Carol Brockfield, Medford, OR
- 5HM Maurine Haltiner, Salt Lake City, UT
- 6HM Jill Jennings, Woodstock, GA
- 7HM Margery L. Watts, Stuart, IA

45. MAINE POETS SOCIETY AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (147 entries)

Judge: Melissa K. Downes, Clarion, PA
1st Julianza Shavin, Colorada Springs, CO "On Viewing a Photograph by Kushal Poddar"
2nd Davi Walders, Chevy Chase. MD "The Eastern Shore"
3rd Patricia Lieb, Spring Hill, FL "Afternoon at the Beach"
11HM Diane Glancy, Shawnee Mission, KS

2HM Meg Eden Kuyatt, College Park, MD 3HM Lisa Dolan, Rehoboth Beach, DE 4HM Chet Taylor, Seguin, TX 5HM James F. Ahern, Rochester, MI 6HM Mary Rudbeck Stanko, London Ont., Canada 7HM Margaret Gleave Ainsdale, Southport, UK

*46. MIRIAM S. STRAUSS MEMORIAL AWARD (*Members Only) \$25 \$20 \$15 (82 entries) Judge: Rhonda Brown, Mesa, AZ 1st Louise Cook, Sandy, UT "Let's All Go to the Snack Bar" 2nd Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR "Watch Atticus Finch One More Time" 3rd Julia L. George, Muskegon, Mi "Speaking of Monroe" 1HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT 2HM Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA 3HM Larry Hand. Woodstock, GA

4HM Joyce Shiver, Crystal River, FL 5HM Kitty Mobley, Pinehurst, TX 6HM Judith Krum, Sanford, FL 7HM Jamie Morewood Anderson, Cedar Crest, NM

*47. THE POETS NORTHWEST AWARD

(*Members Only) \$25 \$20 \$15 (163 entries) Judge: Christine Valentine, Birney, MT
1st Christine H. Boldt, Temple, TX "A Stitched-Together Life"
2nd Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX "The Absence"
3rd Janice L. Freytag, Souderton, PA "Listening to Country Radio During Inclement Weather"

1HM Joyce Kohler, Midway, UT 2HM Dennis Herschbach, Sartell, MN 3HM Frances Brinkley Cowden, Cordova, TN 4HM Anita M. Krotz, Salt Lake City, UT 5HM Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR

6HM Michael Bourgo, Boalsburg, PA

7HM Lisa Salinas, Spring, TX

48. JESSICA C. SAUNDERS MEMORIAL

AWARD \$25 \$20 \$15 (110 entries) Judge: Zachary Kluckman, Albuquerque, NM 1st John D. McBride, Bettendorf, IA *"Der Ring das Nibelungen*: Wagner in Iceland" 2nd Wade Martin, Austin, TX *"Landlord Blues"* 3rd Diane Glancy. Shawnee Mission, KS

"Arthur G. Dozier School for Boys, Marianna, Florida 1900-2011"
1HM Christine H. Boldt, Temple, TX
2HM Georgette Perry, Huntsville, AL
3HM Shirley Ensrud, Blue Earth, MN
4HM Richard R. Cuyler, Salida, CO

5HM Carie Juettner, Austin, TX

6HM Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA 7HM Karen Hayes, North Little Rock, AR

49. APPRECIATION AWARD

\$25 \$20 \$15 (139 entries)

Judge: Art Elser, Denver, CO

^{stage}. Art Enser, Denver, Co 1st Cynthia Weber Nankee, Canton, MI Haiku, Untitled 2nd Linda Banks, Mesquite, TX

"She"

3rd Betsy M. Hughes, Dayton, OH "Tribute to Bess"

1HM Sarah Hull Gurley, Memphis, TN
2HM Lucille Morgan Wilson, Des Moines, IA
3HM Jennifer Hernandez, New Hope, MN
4HM Kathy Lohrum Cotton, Anna, IL
5HM Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Placerville, CO
6HM Liz Dolan, Rehoboth Beach, DE
7HM Janice L. Freytag, Souderton, PA

50. STUDENT AWARD \$50 \$30 \$20

7 Honorable Mentions \$5 each (161 entries) Judge: Linda Schofield, Maineville, OH

1st Nicholas Morrow, Plano, TX *"Legio X Equestris"*

2nd Mary Orsak, Dallas, TX "Clenched Fists"
3rd Sarah Kreutner, Vinton, IA "They Were Never Veterans"
1HM Jane Cook, Dallas, TX
2HM Ashley Ates, Plano, TX
3HM Anna Sudderth, Fort Worth, TX
4HM Claire Rattan, Dallas, TX
5HM Susan Stacy, Des Moines, IA
6HM Caroline Woodman, Dallas, TX
7HM Elizabeth Guo, Dallas, TX

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY LEVEL POETRY COMPETITION WINNERS College Poets Wow St. Pete Crowd

Carlina Duan and Max Seifert are the winners of the 2015 Edna Meudt and Florence Kahn Memorial Awards, respectively, in this year's College Undergraduate Poetry awards. They received cash awards and publication of their chapbooks, which can be ordered through Amazon.com. Both attended the 2015 NFSPS Annual Convention in St. Petersburg, Florida, where they wowed the crowd with readings from their winning entries at the Friday dinner.

Carlina won the Edna Meudt Memorial Award for her chapbook, Here I Go, Torching. She is a poet and journalist from Ann Arbor, Michigan. She has just completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Creative Writing at the University of Michigan, where she has won multiple Hopwood awards and writing prizes, and worked as an editor for her college newspaper, The Michigan Daily. Duan is one of the founding editors of Ann Arbor's Red Beard Press, a youth-driven publishing company, and coauthor of the poetry collection *Electric Bite* Women (2013) with poet Haley Patail. In January, 2016, she will move to Malaysia to teach English as a U.S. Fulbright scholar. At the convention, Carlina also served as a judge and "sacrificial poet" for the Saturday night Team Slam competition.

Max Seifert received the Florence Kahn Memorial Award for The Hole of Everything, Nebraska. Raised in Wilmette, Illinois, he is a creative writing student at the University of Iowa, where he edits poetry for *earthwords: the* undergraduate review and interns with the International Writing Program. His work has previously appeared in Ink Lit Mag and plain china: national anthology of undergraduate writing. His improv troupe, Skinny Horses, and punk band, Riot Fire, are regulars in the Iowa City basement-show scene. Max just returned in May from five months study in France. When pirates raided the pre-dinner reception at the St. Petersburg convention, Max gallantly defended his lady, Molly English, from the fearsome marauders.

Judges for this year's competition, the first NFSPS contest using online submission and judging, were: 1st VP of NFSPS Jim Barton of Arkansas, Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer of Colorado, and James Ahearn of Michigan.

2015 STEVENS POETRY MANUSCRIPT COMPETITION Awarding \$1,000 + Publication + 50 Books

MANUSCRIPT GUIDELINES

•Except for previous Stevens winners, open to all poets writing in English

•Original work by a single author

•Include title page (title only), table of contents, and 48 to 70 pages of poetry, counting any section title pages but not counting front matter

•May include previously published poems. The winner will be required to provide an acknowledgment page if the manuscript includes previously published poems.

•No author identification anywhere in manuscript •No illustrations

•Pages numbered, one poem, one column per page. Poems may be continued on a second page, but do not put two poems on the same page.

•Single space your manuscript. Use 12-point type in a conventional font such as Times New Roman. If you write in long lines or complex formats, be aware that the winning book will be published in a 6" x 9" format.

•Simultaneous and multiple submissions permitted. Notify us immediately if your manuscript is accepted elsewhere.

DEADLINE

Submissions will be accepted from **SEPTEMBER 1 through midnight Pacific Standard Time**, **OCTOBER 1, 2015**. The Submittable online system will be accessible only during this time, and hard-copy submissions must be **postmarked** during this period. No early or late submissions.

ENTRY FEE & PAYMENTS

The submission fee is \$20 for NFSPS members, \$25 for nonmembers. Members of state poetry societies affiliated with NFSPS are members.

•For online submissions, pay at Submittable.com with a credit card or PayPal.

•For mailed paper submissions, place your check on top of the manuscript.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Online Submissions via Submittable.com. We strongly encourage using NFSPS' Stevens submission page at Submittable.com. You can find a link to this page by going to nfsps.com and selecting the Manuscript Contest link. Using Submittable saves us both time and money.

•Simply submit the manuscript in a **single** document file from your computer into the designated area.

• If you have an acknowledgements page, it must be submitted separately.

•You will be notified that your manuscript has been received.

•A Submittable account is free, simple to set up, and instantly usable. If you currently have a Submittable account, you may use it to enter the competition. If you do not have an account, use the online sign-up. An increasing number of journals and other literary venues accept submission only through Submittable.

Mailed Submissions. If you are unable to make an online submission, mail your manuscript.

•Manuscript must be typewritten or computer generated.

•Enclose manuscript in a plain file folder and/or held by a manuscript clip; NO staples or binding.

•On the top of your manuscript, place a page with the title and your name, address, phone number, and email address, plus the name of the state poetry society where you are a member (if applicable). You will not be eligible for the reduced fee without society membership information.

•Do NOT send by certified or registered mail. Do NOT send disks.

•Manuscripts will NOT be returned. Entrants who enclose a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope, or provide an email address, will be notified of the results in January 2016.

•The winner will automatically be notified.

Mail submissions to:

Wilda Morris, Chair

NFSPS Stevens Poetry Manuscript Competition P. O. Box 1669

Bolingbrook, IL 60440

JUDGING, PUBLICATION, & QUESTIONS

All manuscripts will be reviewed for compliance with guidelines and overall quality by the competition chair. Approximately 100 manuscripts will be sent, without identification or acknowledgments, to an independent judge, who will remain anonymous until the results are announced.

The winning manuscript will be published by the NFSPS Press, and the book will be available for sale at the NFSPS annual convention and elsewhere in June, 2016.

You may address questions to the contest chair at the above address, or by email to stevens.nfsps@gmail.com.

Past Judges: David Baker, Michael Dennis Browne, Michael Bugeja, Anne Marx, Sue Brannan Walker, Kenneth Brewer, David Sutherland, Donna Salli, Bruce Eastman, Ruth Berman, Peter Meinke, Lawson Inada, Patricia Fargnoli, Jeff Gundy, Carolyne Wright, Ralph Burns, Lola Haskins, Jessica Garratt, Maggie Anderson, Glenna Holloway, John Witte.

NFSPS MEMBER SOCIETY NEWS

MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY SOCIETY is fortunate to have four official chapters, each of which hosts a scheduled meeting at during the year. In Director Bev Barnes absence, Roberta Hung stepped up to present an absorbing program at Word Crafters Spring Meeting on May 2nd. Roberta spoke on the Poetry of Cosmopolitan Tang Dynasty (617-907 CE). President Jeanette Maes offered a workshop, "Ramifications," that resulted in clever poems and much hilarity. Waterfront Crew Poets launched a new book in April, Collected Poems, partially supported by the Winthrop Cultural Council. In May, seven members participated in an Arts & Letters Crawl that included poetry readings at the Winthrop Public Library. Summer solstice presented another opportunity to share poetry when the Waterfront Crew Poets again did readings at the Cultural Center. The next meeting of MSPS will be held on the first Saturday in August in the town of Lunenberg at the home of Mary Ellen Letarte, the Louise Brogan Chapter Director. Best summer greetings to NFSPS from MSPS until autumn. ~ Patricia Bruen Tacelli, Reporter

LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA POETS held its semi-annual gathering in St. Cloud, Minnesota in April. The featured speaker and teacher was Margaret Hasse, a well known poet from the Twin cities area. Nearly forty poets participated in the event which lasted two days, and included writing time, learning time, and meals around which poets could meet new friends and discuss their favorite

topic, poetry. In October, our fall meeting will be held in St. Paul at Hotel 340, the site of the NFSPS 2016 convention, for a trial run of its facilities and services. We do hope you are planning ahead for the event, as we are. Be on the lookout for future announcements so you can come join the fun in an historic building near the headwaters of the mighty Mississippi. ~ Dennis Herschbach, President

MISSISSIPPI POETRY SOCIETY held its annual Spring Festival in April at the Gulf Hills Hotel and Conference Center in beautiful Ocean Springs. We were privileged to have Jim Barton from Arkansas, first vice president of NFSPS, as our guest speaker. His workshop topic was "Word Count vs. Words That Count," and he demonstrated how to make our poetry more concise. In his keynote address he offered helpful advice about how to get our work published. Jim is not only an excellent speaker, but also very entertaining. Winners were announced for the adult and student categories by contest coordinator, Sheila Grieco. Winning the top prize for the Mississippi Poetry Society Award was Linda Watson Owen. This year the society gave out awards to three exceptional poets: Judy Davies and Dr. Emory Jones each received Lifetime Achievement Awards for their poetry and service, and Sandra Bounds received the coveted Poet of the Year Award for 2015. After reading some of her favorite poems, Sandra signed copies of her chapbook, From the Heart of the Deep South. MPS congratulates one of our North Branch members, Patricia Neely-Dorsey, poet and author, who was named as a "Goodwill Ambassador" for her "celebration of the south and things southern across Mississippi." Check out her website at patricianeelydorsey.webs.com. We would like for everyone to be aware that our student category will be judged earlier this year with a deadline of December 1, 2015. Information will be posted on our website, www.misspoetry.net, а later date.

~ Dorothy Wiman, Secretary

POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS' Student Awards Festival was held on April 18, 2015, at the J. Erik Jonsson Main Library in downtown Dallas with Poetry in the Schools Chairman Budd Powell Mahan officiating. Prior to the event, certificates were mailed to students winning 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place in the PST Student Contests and those attending the event read their winning poems. Attending student winners were given the anthology containing the 1st Place winning poems, as well as the names only of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Place winners, along with the names of all their teachers and schools. Assisting at the event were L. D. Carter, Patrick Lee Marshall, President Catherine L'Herisson, Director Susan Maxwell Campbell and her husband. The Library's auditorium had standing room only, with seating for 170 while more than 200 people attended. ~ Nancy Baass

President's Message continued from page 1

To assist societies endeavoring to strengthen their youth programming, the Youth Activities Committee is preparing a compilation of ways to engage young poets, with contact information for the people who have developed them. This will be made available on the NFSPS website and/or sent to state presidents.

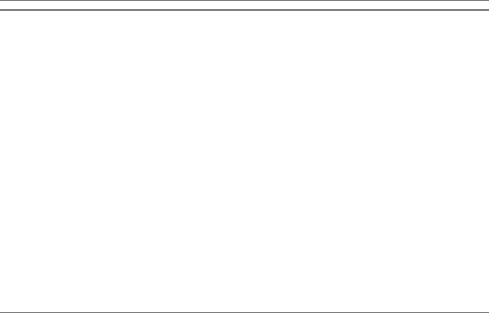
Another area of state society programming long recognized by the NFSPS board is for Poetry Day and Poetry Month. This year, eighteen societies reported their activities to Poetry Day/Poetry Month Liaison Dena R. Gorrell and were awarded certificates. For the coming year, we will not only continue to recognize societies for their Poetry Day and Poetry Month activities, but we will also provide resources for such activities. I have appointed Amy Jo Zook, a past president of NFSPS who has also served the Federation in many other roles, to the position of Publicity Chair, Traditional Media. She will focus on providing materials for effective ways of marking Poetry Day and Poetry Month.

Besides facilitating communication among affiliated societies and making program resources available to them, we on the NFSPS board are trying to make it easier for officers and members of those societies to communicate with us. To that end, I have appointed Russell H. Strauss, a past president of NFSPS and current president of the Poetry Society of Tennessee (his 4th time in that role), to serve as Board Liaison to State Societies. If you have questions, suggestions, or complaints for the board, contact Russell at rstrpoet@cs.com. H he will make sure that they are conveyed to the board members who can address them.

Newsletter, website, Facebook, email, postal mail-all are means for us to communicate with each other across the distances of our country. Best of all, though, is the in-person contact that occurs at our annual conventions. To ensure that it remains feasible for state societies to host them and to make it possible for members with limited incomes to attend them, the board has adopted a few new measures. NFSPS will provide the multipage forms where attendees can fill in contest results as they are announced, and it will also pay the registration fees for the winners of the Stevens and College/University poetry manuscript competitions and the costs of the meals at which they are guest speakers. Until now, these expenses have been the responsibility of the host society.

Perhaps most important for members who have often wanted to attend a convention but never been able to fit it into their budgets, and for those who have only been able to do so occasionally, the NFSPS board is establishing fellowships to help cover the costs of convention attendance. Third Vice-President Diane Glancy is chairing the committee that will work out the financing and implementation of this new program.

What we do is, of course, all for poets and poetry—we are poets serving our fellow poets. At the 2015 convention, this ethos was wonderfully exemplified by the keynoter, Peter Meinke, recently named Florida Poet Laureate. He and his wife, artist Jeanne Meinke, participated actively in the entire convention, conveying the warmest interest in everyone's work. High poetic achievement combined with such readiness to give of oneself to fellow poets is what we have been seeking in an Honorary Chancellor, and I am deeply gratified that Peter Meinke has accepted my invitation to serve as NFSPS Honorary Chancellor for 2015-2016.



CONTESTS

ARIZONA STATE POETRY SOCIETY's 2015 Annual Contest presents "Poetry: Something for Everyone." All poets and aspiring poets are invited to enter. For a small fee you can enter one or all twelve poetry categories with varied interesting forms and subjects. Enter original unpublished following the various poems guidelines. Submissions must arrive by midnight Sept. 15. Categories pay \$200, \$100 or \$50. In addition to a certificate, the first three winning entries in each category will be read at the ASPS Fall Conference in November and printed in Sandcutters, the ASPS journal. Winning poets will receive a copy of the beautifully bound book. Check guidelines on submissions at azpoetry.webs.com or contact Carol Hogan, Contest Chair, ASPS Annual Contest 2015, 10401 N. Cave Creek Rd. Lot 116, Phoenix, AZ 85020 or by email at carolhogan@cox.net.

REDROCK WRITERS' CHAPARRAL POETRY FORUM CONTEST. NEW DATES! Entries: postmarked Sept. 1 through Dec. 1, 2015. Contest guidelines available at redrockwriters.org. Questions, contact the Contest Chair: Marie Tollstrup mariect@infowest.com.

SPRINGFIELD WRITERS' GUILD of Springfield, Missouri, proudly announces it 22nd Annual Prose and Poetry Competition. Deadline is September 15, 2015. The competition is open to all writers. All categories, with the exception of the Jim Stone Memorial Poetry Division, have no limit to the number of entries. A \$5 entry fee must accompany each entry. All entries must be original and unpublished. The competition includes a number of poetry categories as well as fiction, and nonfiction. For the first time this year it will be possible to enter online. Contest guidelines are available at: springfieldwritersguild.org/contests. Click on the contest link, Submission Manager. If you would like to have guidelines emailed to you, send your request or questions to writer716@gmail.com.

ILLINOIS STATE POETRY SOCIETY contest with 8 categories. Deadline: Sept. 10, 2015. \$10 for up to 8 poems (\$8 for ISPS member states). Full guidelines at illinoispoets.org.

POETRY FESTIVAL IN SOUTHERN UTAH -- MARCH 3-5, 2016

Plan to spend a weekend next spring in Southern Utah immersed in poetry and creative writing. On Thursday, March 3, at 7 pm in the Springdale Canyon Community Center, Z-ARTS will present a free lecture, "An Evening with Plein Air Poetry," by visiting poet Dr. David J. Rothman, Director of the Graduate Program in Creative Writing at Western State Colorado University.

On Friday, March 4, from 9 am to 4 pm the seventh annual POETRY IN THE PARK will take place at Zion Park Lodge with Rothman presenting a Plein Air Poetry Workshop surrounded by the natural beauty of Zion Park's red rock country. Admission to the park and a guided naturalist walk are included in the seminar fee.

Continuing into the weekend, the 20th annual Redrock Writers Seminar will be held on Saturday, March 5th, from 9 am to 4 pm. The Seminar features a distinguished faculty exploring: Cowboy Poetry, Writing with Tension, Photo Journalism and Plein Air More info. is available Poetry. at redrockwriters.org. These workshops have been made possible by a partnership between Utah State Poetry Society and Zion Natural History Association with partial funding from the Utah Department of Arts and Museums and NEA. Details are available at poetry-in-thepark.com.

Fees are \$60 each for Poetry in the Park and for Redrock Seminar, with discounts for UTSPS members. Lodging is available at reduced prices at Zion Park Lodge, in Springdale, or in St. George which has a regional airport with connections to Denver and Salt Lake City. From the Las Vegas airport, shuttles are available to St. George and carpools to Zion Park. Don't miss this wonderful learning opportunity in inspiring Utah—make lodging and travel arrangements now!

STROPHES AUGUST 2015 INSERT - Page 1 of 2

ABOVE and BEYOND AWARD Presented by Steven Concert, NFSPS **Chancellor and Youth Chair**

The inspiration for this award came about while trying to organize a filing cabinet. While sifting through folders of saved paperwork, I rediscovered the 2008 NFSPS contest chair report. On the report, I had highlighted several items that had caught my attention. I had planned to recognize these two individuals in 2009, but the report was inadvertently filed away. Rediscovering the report and because so many state presidents and Youth Chair pointed out individual efforts of their members, I decided that all of them needed to be acknowledged. Fourteen individuals are being honored for their willingness to help, lead, and inspire our teach poetry. Member of the League of youth.

1. In 2008, this individual judged the NFSPS 10. This individual taught breakout sessions Category #50 - Student Award. In addition to judging the competition, the individual felt that the poetry of an additional 51 entries "had real merit," and volunteered to write each of them a note of encouragement, show them where their meter failed, or why the rhythm balked in a read-aloud line. Member of the Poets - Dennis Herschbach. League of Minnesota Poets - Charmaine Donovan.

along with the judge of Category #50, "put together a small citation certificate" for the additional 51 entries and mailed them back to the students. Member of the Connecticut the New Mexico State Poetry Society - John Poetry Society - Christine Beck.

3. This individual works with homeless youth 12. This individual led a workshop for high through a program called Art From Ashes (a non- profit) – homeless youth hang out in their space and write 3-minute poems after a workshop by an adult poet. Member of the Columbine Poets of Colorado - Marleine Yannish.

4. This individual goes into classrooms to teach poetry. Member of the Columbine Poets of Colorado - Julie Cummings.

5. This individual goes into classrooms to teach poetry. Member of the Columbine Poets of Colorado - Anita Jepson Gilbert.

6. This individual goes into classrooms to teach poetry. Member of the Columbine Poets of Colorado - Seth Harris.

7. This individual goes into classrooms to teach poetry. Member of the Columbine Poets of Colorado - Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer.

8. In 2013, this individual's Elders Project was awarded the State History Award in Education from the Historical Society of Michigan. The Elders Project uses oral history interviews to create poetry based on the stories and lives of elders in our communities, linking history with literature. The project consists of three Second Place parts: introducing students to the interview process, the elder interview itself, then transcribing the recordings and culling the interviews into narrative poetry. From these poems the students can publish a book or weave together and present a Spoon River Anthology style reading/performance of their poems for the school or community. Terry has hosted this project in numerous communities with middle through high school students. Member of the Poetry Society of Michigan -Terry Wooten.

9. This individual goes into classrooms to Minnesota Poets – Sister Rafael Tilton.

for the Young Authors - Young Artists at the College of St. Benedicts where over 1,200 middle school students attend the three day event each year. This individual taught poetry to over 200 of the students attending the event. Member of the League of Minnesota

11. This individual developed a blueprint for the state society's "Poet in Your Classroom" 2. Also in 2008, the NFSPS contest chair program that can be duplicated in other schools. Hr also helped to expand the program this year to include publication of an anthology of the students' work. Member of Candelaria.

> school juniors at one high school. Member of the Oregon Poetry Association - Steve Jones.

> 13. This individual stayed on as Youth Chair for the state society many, many years beyond what she was willing to serve while waiting for someone to step up and relieve her of the duty. It took five years to find a replacement. Member of the Pennsylvania Poetry Society -Marilyn Downing.

> 14. This individual serves as Youth Chair for the state. He ensures student participation in the NFSPS Student Award contest - Category #50 by forwarding over 100 student entries to the contest. Member of the Poetry Society of Texas – Budd Powell Mahan.

MANNINGHAM TRUST STUDENT **POETRY CONTEST 2015 WINNERS** Junior Level Winners

First Place

Name: Neha Dronamraju Title: India - My Mother

School: The Hockaday School City: Dallas, Texas Teacher: Allyson Cockrum

Name: Anthony Poett Title: Darkness School: Cambridge Lakes Charter School City: Pingree Grove, Illinois Teacher: James Buckwalter

Third Place

Name: Salvador Sarabia Title: Tornado School: White Station Middle School City: Memphis, Tennessee Teacher: Jennifer Brenneman

Fourth Place

Name: Hannah Van Meveren Title: Mango Haiku School: St. Peter Lutheran School City: Arlington Heights, Illinois Teacher: Amy Picchiotti

Fifth Place

Name: Ellen Schindel Title: Nafpaktos School: The Hockaday School City: Dallas, Texas Teacher: Allyson Cockrum

First Honorable Mention

Name: Dalyn Feigenspan Title: How I Grew Up School: Mexico Middle School City: Mexico, Missouri Teacher: Lauren Mattson

Second Honorable Mention

Name: Cameron Feagin Title: I'm Trving School: Howard Middle School City: Ocala, Florida Teacher: Vickie Treulieb

Third Honorable Mention

Name: Kendrick Lee Title: Concerto 21 School: Spencer Butte Middle School City: Eugene, Oregon Teacher: Michael Roderick

Fourth Honorable Mention

Name: Christina Yang **Title: Graphite Scribbles** School: The Hockaday School City: Dallas, Texas Teacher: Michelle Mount

Fifth Honorable Mention

Name: Emara Klein Title: Loneliness School: St. Albert Catholic School City: Council Bluffs, Iowa Teacher: Fran Shorey

STROPHES AUGUST 2015 INSERT - Page 2 of 2

Senior Level Winners

First Place

Name: Sarah Binau Title: Sixteen Going on Seventeen School: Bexley High School City: Bexley, Ohio Teacher: Julie Horger

Second Place

Name: Hannah Birch Title: Physics and T.S. Eliot School: Hempstead High School City: Dubuque, Iowa Teacher: Susan Swift

Third Place

Name: Jennifer Xiao Title: Night Dancer School: White Station High School City: Memphis, Tennessee Teacher: Scott Harrison

Fourth Place

Name: Marley Lopez Title: Pursed Lips School: St. Mary's Academy City: Portland, Oregon Teacher: Sara Salvi

Fifth Place

Name: Sophia Frechette Title: Turn It Down School: Seabreeze High School City: Daytona Beach, Florida Teacher: Leah Paul Volusia

First Honorable Mention

Name: Marley C. Eggertsen Title: Circling Morocco School: Create Solutions Tutoring City: Ashland, Oregon Teacher: Sara-Lynne Simpson

Second Honorable Mention

Name: Anna Sudderth Title: Flowers in April School: Trinity Valley School City: Fort Worth, Texas Teacher: Lucas Jacob

Third Honorable Mention

Name: Grace M. Hermes Title: Sepia Skyline School: St. Mary's Academy City: Portland, Oregon Teacher: Sara Salvi

Fourth Honorable Mention

Name: Tanvi Yenna Title: Stories School: Valley High School City: West Des Moines, Iowa Teacher: Erin Petty

Fifth Honorable Mention

Name: Catherine Carroll Title: August School: Benet Academy City: Lisle, Illinois Teacher: Lisa DiMarco

MANNINGHAM TRUST STUDENT POETRY CONTEST

Rules: 2016 annual competition

1. There are two divisions: Grade 6-8 (Junior Division) and Grades 9-12 (Senior **Division**). Each state may submit ten (10) top printed and/or have won previous awards. Contests at state level may have occurred anytime in 2015 or 2016.

2. The competition is open to all USA students in grades 6 – 12. Public, private, and homeschools are eligible for entry by individual NFSPS member states.

3. Submit two copies of each poem. Put the division (Junior or Senior) in the upper left student's ID in upper right corner. The ID information is student name, school name and address, student grade level, and the student's an individual entry may qualify for judging. language arts/English teacher's name. The Do not send a copy with any other marking there should be no indication of prior award granted by the state.

4. Each poem must be neatly typed or computer-generated, and have no more than 30 lines. If a poem continues more than one page, staple the pages together. Do not staple the two copies of the poem together. It is suggested that each state representative keep a copy of poems entered.

5. There should be no large or unusual fonts or illustrations. Times New Roman is the suggested font. No font larger than 12 point should be used. Winning poems are scanned for the award anthology and large and/or unusual fonts impede the process.

6. Each entrant must make a declaration of originality. The statement should appear on the bottom of the ID copy only. The form below is acceptable:

I certify that this poem is my original work, and has not been copied in whole or part from any author's poems in print or posted on the Internet.

Signed:

7. Separate poems into respective divisions. Within each division separate the ID copy from the anonymous copy meant for judges. Include a cover letter identifying the Manningham (Youth) Chairperson to whom the report on the contests will be mailed.

8. Entries must be received by March 1, 2016.

Send entries to: Budd Mahan, 7059 Spring Valley Road, Dallas, TX 75254

Ten prizes will be awarded in each division: First Place - \$75. Second Place - \$50. Third Place - \$40, Fourth Place - \$35, Fifth Place -\$30, and five Honorable Mentions - \$10 each.

All winning poems will be published in the Manningham Trust Poetry Student Award Anthology. Winners will receive complimentary copies. The schools of each winning student will receive a complimentary copy for the school library. Notice of winners poems in each division. Poems may have been report will be sent to each state's Manningham (Youth) Chair no later by May 20, 2016. Awards (certificates, checks, anthologies) will also be mailed to the state chairperson. Each state is responsible for distributing prizes to winners and winning schools. The top winning poems will be read to NFSPS members at the Convention held in June 2016.

Entries by individual students are allowed. corner of both copies. One copy must have the No individual entry will supersede a state's collective entries, but in cases in which a state has no NFSPS affiliation or sends no entries,

I look forward to each state's participation second copy must not have ID information. in the Manningham Poetry Trust's annual contests. Questions may be directed to the chairperson at the addresses/numbers below.

Budd Powell Mahan

Manningham Trust Student Poetry Awards Chairperson

7059 Spring Valley Road, Dallas, TX 75254 972-788-4944 ~ buddmahan@att.net

2015 NFSPS CONVENTION PHOTOS



Carlina Duan and Max Seifert, winners of the 2015 College Undergraduate Poetry awards, with a Blackbeard's Pirate Krewe.



Peter Meinke (center), recently named Florida Poet Laureate, with his wife, artist Jeanne Meinke, and Florida State Poets Association President, Joseph Cavanaugh.

Thanks to Wayne S. Williams of Largo, Florida for the above photos.

NFSPS 2015 CONVENTION - ADDITIONAL PHOTOS



Presentation Friday evening on "Gifts from the Sea" by Janet Watson.



Amy Jo Zook announces the 2015 Stevens Manuscript winner.



Blackbeard's Pirate Krewe in full and fearsome finery.



Presentations on "Florida's Roots" by Elaine Person, Sean Sexton and Doyle Rigdon



Contestants for the Florida Slam Team along with competition judges and poetry lovers.

August 2015

STROPHES



Eleanor Berry, Janet Watson, Nora Watson (a.k.a. Angelica Shoals)



LOMP members (2016 Convention hosts) Peter Stein, Henry Panowitsch, Susan Stevens Peter Meinke, Joe Cavanaugh, James Tokley Chambers, Mary Schmidt, Charmaine Pappas (Hillsborough County Poet Laureate) Donovan



Shirley Cavanaugh, Susan Moss, Joe Cavanaugh



Peter Meinke, Janet Watson (short), Natalie Warrick (tall)



Max Seifert (winner, Florence Kahn Memorial Award), Kathy Cotton, Carlina Duan (winner, Edna Meudt Memorial Award)





Jan Shumliak and nautical music partner



Susan Moss, Eleanor Berry, Lucille Morgan Wilson



Minnesota poetry crew



Peggy Arnold (middle) and other attendees



Peter Meinke (Florida Poet Laureate & new NFSPS Honorary Chancellor), Jeanne Meinke



Judith Krum and Doyle Rigdon



Mara Scrupe, winner of the Stevens Award

Thanks to Richard Berry of Lyons, Oregon and Wayne S. Williams of Largo, Florida for these additional convention photos.