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Poet Rosemerry Trommer is selected first place winner of the 2018 BlackberryPeach Prize Contest

April 10, 2018 – The National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS) is pleased to announce the 1st place winner of the 2017 BlackBerryPeach Spoken and Heard competition is Rosemerry Trommer of Placerville, Colorado . BlackBerryPeach is a major NFSPS competition that challenges poets to present their original poetry in print and spoken word.

Vice President Joe Cavanaugh, chair of the contest stressed the importance of reaching out to all poets, by recognizing spoken poetry in its many forms as a powerful poetic genre. As 1st place winner Trommer receives the grand prize of \$1,000 and is invited to speak her work at the NFSPS national convention in Denver, Colorado on June 2, 2018. “NFSPS is excited to showcase Rosemerry and her signature poetry and voice,” Cavanaugh says.

The second place prize winner of \$500 is Susan Chambers of Good Thunder, Minnesota. Third place winner of \$250 is Ryan Jones of Grayson, Georgia. The Honorable Mention Award winner is Betty Bleen of Westerville , Ohio. All of the prize winners will be invited to perform as part of the Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening at the convention.

The National Federation of State Poetry Societies (www.nfsps.com) 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.

A video of the convention performances, will be posted on YouTube and NFSPS will publish the prizewinning entries including written and oral versions of four poems from each, in a 6" by 9" book that will be for sale at the Convention and will be marketed on Amazon.com.