

National Federation of State Poetry Societies

Convention Host Contest 2023

Invocational Poems

The NFSPS Board will host the NFSPS national convention in West Des Moines, Iowa in June of 2023. NFSPS is pleased to announce the Invocational Poems Contest.

- Subject:** Invocational poems to be read by winners at the beginning of convention meals.
- Criteria:** The paramount consideration is poetic value, not religious orthodoxy: “It must be first of all a poem.” Poems should be suitable for a religiously diverse membership, should use gender-inclusive, contemporary language, and should have equal value for the religious and the non-religious.
- Form:** Any form, not to exceed 30 lines. Name the form on your entry.
- Eligibility:** Open to all poets. **No fee to enter.** Limit 4 poems.
- Limits:** Must be the original work of the poet, unpublished, not submitted elsewhere for publication, and not a previous host-contest winning poem. Typed or printed from computer. One poem per page.
- Opening:** Send entries after January 1, 2023.
- Deadline:** **February 28, 2023** postmark.
- Winners:** Notified individually in April of the year 2023. We place a high value on your reading of your own poem, but we will provide a substitute reader if you cannot be present at the convention in June.
- Copies:** Two. Your name, email and postal address and name of your chosen form at upper right corner of one; name of contest and chosen form only in upper right corner of the other. Poems will not be returned.
- Ownership:** NFSPS receives the right to have the poem read at this convention. You retain all other rights.
- Mail entries to:** Susan Chambers
700 Agency Trail, Unit 207
Mankato, MN 56001
- Questions?** schambersmediator@yahoo.com
507-387-8154