

# ***NEWS 'N' NOTES***

## **Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas**

Founded February 5, 1931

Member of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc.

<http://poetsroundtableofarkansas.org>

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**November 2018**

### **President's Address:**

Members,

I want to thank all who were part of Poetry Day this year. Although, some could not come to the celebration many entered the yearly contests –and won! We missed you but are grateful that you are so active. We enjoyed hearing Pat Durmon share encouraging words to help us reach our potential by utilizing our muse.

I would like to share an event that took place a few days earlier. As you know, Jo McDougall is Arkansas's current Poet Laureate. In May, we accompanied Jo to the state capitol when Governor Hutchinson presented her with the proclamation naming her Poet Laureate. He asked her to write a poem about hope in Arkansas. When we went to receive the proclamation for Poetry Day, I invited Jo to go with us. Usually this entails a photo-op in the Governor's conference room. When Governor Hutchinson came for the presentation, Jo told him she had written the poem he had requested. He asked us to wait a minute as he finished another photo-op on the other end of the room. He came back to us and invited us into his office. We were seated, he called in his staff, and stood to read the beautiful poem Jo had written. He shared his thoughts and expressed his gratitude for the poem and also to us as poets. It was an especially proud moment for poetry in Arkansas and Poets' Roundtable. There are some pictures of the event on PRA's Facebook page.

Writing is therapy, your muse -- the inspiration. Write.

Life is too short to be without poetry.

Dennis Patton  
President, PRA

### **Poetry Day Conference, October 13th, Little Rock:**

PRA celebrated its 71<sup>st</sup> annual Poetry Day on October 13<sup>th</sup> at the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, in Little Rock. President Dennis Patton welcomed members and guests, including the four children of former PRA President Betty Heidelberger. Poetry Day Chair Amanda Partridge read the Governor's Proclamation of Poetry Day and a short history of past Poet Laureate Rosa Zagnoni Marinoni who established the first Arkansas Poetry Day on October 15, 1948. Then Amanda introduced the featured speaker, accomplished poet/author Pat Durmon of Norfolk, Arkansas. Pat spoke on how poets are storytellers who write about what they know from everyday life. She encouraged poets to have others critique their work, and she read a poem by Arkansas Poet Laureate Jo McDougall entitled "This Morning." Pat also encouraged poets to enter the "arena," as President Theodore Roosevelt said, to share their work. Attendees enjoyed a skit by Pat (as muse) and Harding Stedler (as poet). Pat then presented critiques of member poems submitted in advance.

After lunch President Patton held a business meeting and recognized members lost during the year: Arkansas' 6th Poet Laureate Peggy Vining of Little Rock, NFSPS President and PRA Treasurer Jim Barton of Huttig, and longtime PRA member Dean Henning of Alexander. Discussion of business items included:

**Nominating Committee** - Frieda Patton is serving as Nominating Committee Chair for the 2019-2021 election of PRA officers. The process is ongoing. Ballots will be posted in the February 2019 newsletter for members to vote by February 28th.

**2019 Spring Celebration** – PRA's 2019 Dr. Lily Peter Spring Celebration will be April 13<sup>th</sup> in Little Rock at the Cox Building. Guest speaker will be H.K. (Heather) Hummel, Assistant Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Arkansas.

**2018 Arkansas State Fair** - PRA again sponsored the *Best-of-Show* category in the Arkansas State Fair. Frieda read the winners' list compiled by Chair Donna

Smith who was absent. PRA winners included: Cathy Moran, John McPherson, Dennis Patton, Sara Gipson, and Donna Nelson, who won the *Best-of-Show* in the Adult category. Some student contests didn't have entries, and a suggestion was made that the information be sent to 4-H groups. (See attached complete list of State Fair winners also posted on PRA's website.).

**2019 Jeanie Dolan Carter Memorial Collegiate Contest (JDC)** - Information for both the state JDC contest and the national NFSPS-CUP (College Undergrad Poetry Contest) needs to be distributed statewide in November. Members are asked to promote these contests with colleges, English professors and students in their areas. Our goal is to reach ALL colleges in Arkansas. Members willing to contact a college are asked to please notify Collegiate Contest Chair Donna Smith. (See guidelines for both college contests attached and posted on PRA's website.)

**2019 Middle and High School Student Contests** -- November is also the time to distribute middle and high school student contest information. Like the college contests, we ask members to help promote these contests statewide. Each branch is asked to reach out to teachers, schools, libraries and students in its area. (See attached contest copies also posted on PRA's website.)

(FYI – Student Contest Co-Chair Laura Bridges heard an interview in August with a Creative Writing Professor/Author who talked about how schools across the U.S. are dropping humanities programs (creative writing, English, art and more) to add more STEM classes. This is really a shame. We will have more math and science majors but will they know how to form concrete sentences or interview for jobs? The humanities are what make us well-rounded people. The love of books and writing should have a prominent place in society. The generation following the Millennials will be denied these pleasures and will suffer. Grammar is very important in business. Very. Laura says, “It is my hope that PRA continues to have funds to support our student and college contests. They are more important than ever.”)

**Poetry Day Contest sponsorship forms** -- This year there were some contest sponsorship submissions that were vague and hard to interpret. When completing the forms for next year, please be clear on requirements for the entries. (Forms for the 2019 Poetry Day Contest Sponsors will be distributed with the February PRA newsletter and due February 28<sup>th</sup> to PRA Treasurer Cathy Moran.)

**The Jim Barton Memorial** -- PRA has collected \$451 to date in memorial funds for Jim Barton. Discussion was held on how to best honor Jim with the funds. A motion was passed to sponsor a NFSPS contest -- The Jim Barton Memorial Award-- using the \$100 PRA usually provides to sponsor a contest and \$50 from Jim's memorial fund with prizes of \$75, 50, and \$25 for

the first year. If anyone would like to donate, please contact Cathy Moran.

**Merit Award** - Dennis presented the prestigious Merit Award for 2018 to Frieda Patton. In June the PRA Board unanimously voted to recognize Frieda with this honor, richly deserved for her long-time support and promotion of poetry and poets through the goals of PRA.

Finally, Poetry Day Contest Chair Marie Allison announced all of the winners, and Dennis Patton announced the Sybil Nash Abrams awards. The \$1,000 SNA winner this year was Pat Durmon with her poem “Don't Underestimate the Warren-Hogan House or the Crumbs Left Behind.” (See attached complete list of Poetry Day winners also posted on PRA's website.)

**Reminder!** You can still pay your PRA member dues to participate in free monthly contests, Spring Celebration contests, and NFSPS contests. Send \$20 (or \$15 for seniors and students) to PRA Membership Coordinator Cathy Moran, 401 Auburn Dr., Little Rock, AR 72205. Also please send address, phone and email updates.

**Welcome new PRA members!** John Edens of Athens, AL; William Hill of Southaven, MS; Jerri Hardesty of Brierfield, AL; and Nancy Clark of Little Rock, AR.

**Updates to the 2019 Yearbooks:** Arkansas Poet Laureate Jo McDougall's email address should be [jomcdougall@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jomcdougall@sbcglobal.net). Please also remember that Stacy Pendergrast is acting as Jo's press secretary. To engage Jo for events please contact Stacy at [pendergrasts@me.com](mailto:pendergrasts@me.com).

**Online Group:** If you're not attending a branch consider joining PRA's Online Group coordinated by Kate Lacy. New participants welcome! Contact Kate at [voicedancer2002@yahoo.com](mailto:voicedancer2002@yahoo.com).

**Notes from Arkansas Poet Laureate Jo McDougall:**  
**Dear PRA members and colleagues in poetry:**

It is hard to believe that six months have walked on by since I became Poet Laureate of Arkansas. I have spent the time setting up readings, contacting the towns and cities I have lived in of the appointment, and structuring my purpose and platform. Stacy Pendergrast has signed on as my press secretary, and she is invaluable--a wonderful writer and support. She wrote and sent out press releases soon after the appointment.

Governor Hutchinson commissioned me as one of my first official duties, to write a poem on the hopeful future of Arkansas. I delivered it to him on the day of the photo shoot proclaiming Poetry Day in Arkansas. He seemed pleased and after the photo shoot read it aloud to a small group, including Stacy, Dennis and Frieda Patton in his office. That was exciting!

My platform is Poetry ASAP: I believe poetry should be Accessible, Surprising, Available, and Part of our

everyday lives. I hope to promote this message via readings, workshops and talks, especially to the young people of Arkansas and elsewhere.

I appreciate your ongoing support and faith in me, and I welcome all suggestions regarding ways to promote poetry in our everyday lives.

Let's all keep on writing! Poetry: ASAP!

**Anthologies:** PRA's current anthology is at the printer, per co-chair Kate Lacy. PRA will alert members when copies are ready for purchase. Meanwhile, if you would like to donate past anthologies to help complete PRA's series at the Arkansas State Archives, Arkansas State Library, and the Butler Center, please contact PRA President Dennis Patton, PRA Historian Marilyn Joyner or PRA Board Member Donna Smith.

**Did You Know?** PRA members are automatically NFSPS members too, with access to other state & national contests.

### **Farewell to Herbert Dean Henning (1942-2018):**

Herbert Dean Henning, 76, of Alexander, passed away September 18, 2018. He was born January 13, 1942 in Vimey Ridge, Arkansas to B.H. and Maggie Henning. Dean was a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Avilla. He was a Registered Nurse, a musician who played trombone, a writer of poetry and short stories, and a PRA member. Dean was known for his kind and gentle ways. He and his wife enjoyed traveling and visited seven continents. He is preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife Marilyn, the love of his life for 52 years, and many other friends who will miss him dearly. PRA sends our best wishes to his family and friends.

### **Want a PRA Handout for Events, or a Sponsor?**

Try the "2018 Year-in-Review" report. It includes general information about PRA and NFSPS, plus highlights of statewide activities during the year. See PRA's webpage "Resources" tab to print copies.

### **Poetic Wins, Activities & Publications:**

**Please send notice of activities & accomplishments to PRA News Editor Donna Smith, 58 Briarwood, Greenbrier, AR 72058 ([tndsmith@live.com](mailto:tndsmith@live.com)).**

Congratulations to PRA Monthly Contest winners: **August** – 1<sup>st</sup> Donna Nelson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Delores Hinde, 3<sup>rd</sup> Barbara Blanks, 1HM Cathy Moran, 2HM Sara Gipson, 3HM Dr. Emory D. Jones; **September** – 1<sup>st</sup> Marla Bennett, 2<sup>nd</sup> Barbara Blanks, 3<sup>rd</sup> Donna Nelson, 1HM Marilyn Joyner, 2HM Vivian Barcroft, 3HM Dennis Patton.

Congratulations to *Best-of-Show* Winners in the 2018 Arkansas State Fair Poetry Contests sponsored by PRA: Donna Nelson of Kensett (Adult winner of \$25 plus a 1-year PRA membership), Grace Milner of Hot Springs

(Senior Youth winner of \$25), and Kiersten Priddy of Nashville (Junior Youth winner of \$15). See attached list of all State Fair poetry winners, also posted on PRA's website.

Cathy Moran (River Market) reported the following recent wins: a 1<sup>st</sup> from Maria Faust Sonnet Contest; a 2<sup>nd</sup> from New Hampshire; a 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> from Massachusetts; a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and HM from Tennessee; and a 1<sup>st</sup> and HM from Chicagoland

Pat Laster (Saline County) published an editorial in the Arkansas Democrat Gazette on 10/11/18 entitled "Brain Food."

On September 15<sup>th</sup> a memorial service was held for Jim Barton at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in El Dorado. Jim Passed away on July 5<sup>th</sup>. Father Robert Wetherington conducted the service for family and Jim's many friends from PRA and elsewhere. A reception followed in the Church Cloister where attendees shared warm memories of Jim. (To donate to PRA's memorial fund for Jim contact Cathy Moran.)

Gail Denham (Member-at-large - Oregon) won: 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Michigan, 1<sup>st</sup> in Rock Springs Review (short story), 1<sup>st</sup> in Pennsylvania anthology, and in MSPS (Massachusetts) Naomi Cherkosky contest. She also placed poems in the ISPS website, Highland Park's (Illinois) anthology, *Pennessence* (Pennsylvania), Arizona's *Sandcutters* and monthly, Wyoming Poets' newsletter and anthology, Peninsula Poets Spring 2018, and 7 Illinois library locations.

Emory Jones (Member-at-large – Mississippi) recently won: a 3<sup>rd</sup> place and 3HM in Louisiana State Poetry Society's 2018 Fall Festival; a 3<sup>rd</sup> place and a 3HM in the Alabama State Poetry Society's 2018 Contest; and a 3<sup>rd</sup> Citation in the 2018 Pennsylvania Poetry Society's Contest. He also has a poem "Campfire" to be published in 2018 *Falling Star Magazine*.

Congratulations to Amanda Partridge (Gin Creek Poets of Searcy) who is the new NFSPS Stevens Manuscript Competition Chair.

Stacy Pendergrast (River Market Poets) made a presentation November 2-3 at the Autumn Haiku Conference in the Arlington Hotel at Hot Springs. She also is serving as press secretary for Arkansas Poet Laureate Jo McDougall. So please contact Stacy to engage Jo for events.

Fay Guinn (Member-at-large – Jonesboro) recently won from the Poetry Society of Tennessee's 62nd annual poetry contest a 1<sup>st</sup>, two 2<sup>nds</sup>, and a 6<sup>th</sup> place; and from White County Creative Writers Conference a 2<sup>nd</sup>, two 3<sup>rd</sup>s, and a 2HM. Also, Fay has been asked to write and read a poem commemorating her 50th college reunion in Oklahoma City November 3rd.

On October 21<sup>st</sup> PRA's Don Crowson was honored at an appreciation event held by Parkview United

Methodist in Benton. Although he was unable to attend his wife Dean of 61 years was there. PRA's Pat Laster gave a greeting from Poets Roundtable of Arkansas, highlighting Don's service to the organization, specifically his editing an anthology, serving a term as state president, sponsoring contests and serving as the Saline County branch's program chair and chaplain. For 20 years, he has edited the *Saline (formerly Benton) Courier* poetry column, *Poets Forum*, possibly the longest-running feature in any Arkansas newspaper. Don also serves as a lay speaker and choir member at the church.

**Reminder:** PRA Members may post their Poetry Book titles on PRA's website for sale. Links to the author are included for potential buyers to deal directly with the authors. Members who wish to post their books please contact President Dennis Patton.

### **Upcoming Deadlines/Events/Contests**

**2nd Saturday each Month:** PRA's Monthly Contest entries are due by mail to Chair Renee Ramsay, 249 Garden Lane, Floral, AR 72534. See details in PRA's yearbook, plus website links to poetry resources.

**November:** Middle/High School and College Student contests will be distributed statewide this month. PRA branches are asked to help promote these contests in their area. For questions contact Youth Contest Chair Laura Bridges ([llough3@gmail.com](mailto:llough3@gmail.com)) or Collegiate Contest Chair Donna Smith ([tndsmith@live.com](mailto:tndsmith@live.com)).

**November 9-10:** C.D. Wright Women Writers Conference (Friday, 6PM) at UCA College of Business Auditorium and (all day Saturday) at UCA's McCastlain Hall, Conway. See more at: <http://www.cdwrightconference.org/conference>. Or contact Sandy Longhorn at 501-450-5108 or [cdwrightconference@gmail.com](mailto:cdwrightconference@gmail.com), [slonghorn@uca.edu](mailto:slonghorn@uca.edu).

**November 15:** Georgia Poetry Society's annual state poetry contest deadline. See: [georgiapoetrysociety.org](http://georgiapoetrysociety.org),

**November 15:** Illinois State Poetry Society's annual state poetry contest deadline. See: [illinoispoets.org](http://illinoispoets.org),

**December:** Happy Birthday this month to Arkansas Poet Laureate Jo McDougall!

**December 1:** Redrock Writers' Chaparral Poetry Forum Contest entries are due. See guidelines at [redrockwriters.org](http://redrockwriters.org). Or contact Contest Chair Marie Tollstrup at [mariect@infowest.com](mailto:mariect@infowest.com).

**December 15:** Wyopoets Annual Eugene V. Shea National Poetry Contest entries are due. Check details at [wyopoets.org/contests.html](http://wyopoets.org/contests.html).

**Jan 15, 2019:** Postmark deadline for Pennsylvania Poetry Society's 67<sup>th</sup> Annual contest. Download contest brochure from [nfsp.com/pa](http://nfsp.com/pa).

**January 31:** Deadline for NFSPS College Undergraduate Poetry Competition (CUP). See details on PRA's website.

**February 5:** Happy 88<sup>th</sup> Birthday to PRA!

**February 28:** PRA's 2019 Poetry Day Contest Sponsorships due to PRA Treasurer Cathy Moran.

**February 28:** PRA's election ballots for new officers due to Nomination Chair Frieda Patton. VOTE!

**March 1:** Deadline for Mississippi Poetry Contests. See details at [misspoetry.net](http://misspoetry.net).

**March 15:** PRA's Spring Celebration contest entries due. See details on PRA's website.

**March 15:** NFSPS annual contest entries due. See details on PRA's website.

**March 15:** PRA's Jeannie Dolan Carter Collegiate Contest entries due. See details on PRA's website.

**April:** April is National Poetry Month. Celebrate!

**April 11:** An Evening with Murphy Visiting Poet Greg Brownderville at Reves Recital Hall, Hendrix College, Conway. 7:30 p.m. Contact Henryetta Vanaman at [vanaman@hendrix.edu](mailto:vanaman@hendrix.edu) or 501-450-4597.

**April 13:** PRA's Dr. Lily Peter Spring Celebration at the Cox Building in Little Rock. Guest speaker will be H.K. (Heather) Hummel, Assistant Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Arkansas.

**June 23-26:** The 2019 NFSPS Annual Convention in Santa Fe, hosted by the New Mexico State Poetry Society. Plan to attend and represent Arkansas!

**June 30:** PRA membership fees and information updates due to Membership Chair Cathy Moran.

PRA members receive the quarterly *News 'N Notes* via email and web posting. The NFSPS quarterly *Strophes* newsletter is available online via link from PRA's website. Members may request copies of both by postal mail. Branch Presidents are asked to assure that all members have access to these publications.

**For More Information -** Check PRA's website for updates on Arkansas activities and like us on Facebook. Also check the NFSPS web site ([www.nfsp.com](http://www.nfsp.com)) for national news, contests, and links to other state poetry societies. Please alert PRA Membership Chair Cathy Moran with any changes in member contact information or branch meeting places/times/officers. PRA currently serves 118 members, 11 branches, and an online group.

POETS' ROUNDTABLE OF ARKANSAS  
NATIONAL POETRY DAY CELEBRATION  
LITTLE ROCK, AR  
OCTOBER 13, 2018

WINNERS' LIST  
Submitted by Marie Allison, Contest Chair, 2018

**OVERALL RESULTS:** A total of 725 poems were entered in 26 contests, the least number being 11; the most, 44. Forty-nine poets participated: AR= 30; OK = 2; AL= 2; MS= 1; MN= 1; MO= 2; TX= 3; TN= 2; OR= 1; IL= 2; LA= 1; Ontario, Canada= 2.

**26. Baker Nichols Award** -- Chair: Freeda Baker Nichols -- Judge: Freeda Baker Nichols of Clinton, AR -- 11 entries.

3HM -- "My Country 'Tis of Thee" -- Wendy Visser -- Cambridge, Canada  
2HM -- "Americans Speak Soul and Heart" -- Sara Gipson -- Scott, AR  
1HM -- "Loving the American Dream" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "Each Time the Flag Unfurls" -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "Greatness of America" -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "I Love Her Most for This" -- Charles Southerland -- Viola, AR

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**25. Betty Heidelberger Memorial Award** -- Chair -- Anna Noack; Judge: Jo McDougall of Little Rock, AR -- 42 entries.

3HM -- "Uncomfortable" -- Laura Bridges -- North Little Rock, AR  
2HM -- "Killer" -- Dargan Ware -- Birmingham, AL  
1HM -- "Advice to Insomniac Witches" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "Places in 5" -- Nick Sweet -- Shepherd, TX  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "Alone: Tuesday" -- Laura Trigg -- Little Rock, AR  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "Dedication" -- Beth Staas - Oak Brook, IL

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**24. Florence Gibbs Memorial** -- Chair: Anna Noack -- Judge: Liz Faulkner of Little Rock, AR -- 40 entries.

3HM -- "Mound Builder" -- Jerri Hardesty -- Brierfield, AL  
2HM -- "Weaving a Nursery Poem" -- Von S. Bourland -- Happy, TX  
1HM -- "A Poet's Prayer" -- Beth Staas -- Oak Brook, IL  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "Bones of Nikumarora" -- Diane Palfrey -- Cambridge, Canada  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "To Live in Terror" -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "Mama's Back Porch" -- Marilyn Joyner -- El Dorado, AR

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**23. Two Rivers Poets of Ft. Smith Award** -- Chairs: Mary and Kitty Sangster -- Judges : Mary and Kitty Sangster of Fort Smith, AR-- 40 entries.

3HM -- "Out of Africa" -- Diane Palfrey -- Cambridge, Canada  
2HM -- "Lake at Dawn" -- Lori Anne Goetz -- Germantown, TN  
1HM -- "Stay the Course" -- Gail Denham -- Sunriver, OR  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "A Little Night Music" -- Fay Guinn -- Jonesboro, AR  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "Night-time Magic" -- Wendy Visser -- Cambridge, Canada  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "Sandpiper" -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK

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**22. Crowson Award** -- Chair: Don Crowson; Judge: Don Crowson of Benton, AR -- 36 entries.

3HM -- "Adventure Seeker" -- Laura Bridges, North Little Rock, AR  
2HM -- "Voyage" -- Wendy Visser -- Cambridge, Canada  
1HM -- "Captive Audience" -- Barbara Blanks -- Garland, TX  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "Introduction to Miracles" -- Pat Durmon -- Norfolk, AR  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "The Home Place" -- Freeda Baker Nichols -- Clinton, AR  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "Where the Pearl River Flows" -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK

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**21. Saline County Branch** -- Chair: Saline County Poets; Judge: Linda Woodbury of Hot Springs, AR -- 41 entries.

3HM -- "Killing the Dandelions" -- Christine Henderson -- Searcy, AR  
2HM -- "Hallowed Ground: Ticonderoga" -- Lori Anne Goetz -- Germantown, TN  
1HM -- "Overwhelmed" -- Barbara Blanks -- Garland, TX  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "Impaired Hoover and the Invasion of the Muck Hares" -- Terrie Jacks -- Ballwin, MO  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "Decent/Descent" -- Nick Sweet -- Shepherd, TX  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "Edith's Angel Way" -- Dr. John Crawford -- Arkadelphia, AR

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**20. That's Life Award** -- Chair: Laura Bridges; Judge: Laura Bridges of North Little Rock, AR -- 24 entries.

3HM -- "Empty Chairs Like Empty Cups" -- Elizabeth Dail -- Norfolk, AR  
2HM -- "Surprise at the Elevator" -- Fay Guinn -- Jonesboro, AR  
1HM -- "To You, The Powerless Commit" -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "Taking another look at humanity" -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "The Fallen Lamb" -- Gail Denham -- Sunriver, OR  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "A Kind Moment" -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR

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**19. South Arkansas Poets of the Pines Poetry Award** -- Chair: SAPOP; Judge: Members of SAPOP of El Dorado, AR -- 24 entries.

3HM -- "one-note twangs" -- Lori Anne Goetz -- Germantown, TN  
2HM -- "Over the Edge" -- Wendy Visser -- Cambridge, Canada  
1HM -- "Sorry for Myself" -- Christine Henderson -- Searcy, AR  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "Celebrating the Blues" -- Barbara Blanks -- Garland, TX  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "And the River Rolls In" -- Laura Trigg -- Little Rock, AR  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "Blues Singer" -- Laura Bridges -- North Little Rock, AR

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**18. Marie Barton & Teresa Dixon Memorial** -- Chair: Jim Barton; Judge: Mark Barton of El Dorado, AR -- 28 entries.

3HM -- "Open to Change" -- Faye Wise -- Benton, AR  
2HM -- "Say What?" -- John McPherson -- Searcy, AR  
1HM -- "Plain and Simple" -- Jerri Hardesty -- Brierfield, AL  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "All the right words" -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "The Cobbler" -- Nick Sweet -- Shepherd, TX  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "Speakin' to the Dog" -- Terrie Jacks -- Ballwin, MO

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**17. Bucket List Award** -- Chair: Dennis Patton; Judge: Dennis Patton of Alexander, AR -- 19 entries.

3HM -- "I Do Not Own a Bucket List" -- Pat Durmon -- Norfolk, AR  
2HM -- "The Booking Agent" -- Charles Southerland -- Viola, AR  
1HM -- "Bucket Blues" -- Delores Hinde -- Hot Springs, AR  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "All on my list" -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "Legacy" -- Barbara Blanks -- Garland, TX  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "The Housewife's Real Bucket List" -- Elizabeth Dail -- Norfolk, AR

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**16. Music on my mind** -- Chair: Rita Goodgame; Judge: Rita Goodgame of Little Rock, AR -- 30 entries.

3HM -- "Only a Reflection of the Believer" -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK  
2HM -- "Raga" -- Charles Southerland -- Viola, AR  
1HM -- "Love Notes to Clara after Brahms" -- Beth Staas -- Oak Brook, IL  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "Bongo, Bongo with Burl" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "Keeping you and the music with me" -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "That Song" -- Laura Trigg -- Little Rock, AR

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**15. Dr. Seuss Memorial Award** -- Chair: Donna Smith; Judge: Donna Smith of Greenbrier, AR -- 15 entries.

3HM -- "Alphabet Soup" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN  
2HM -- "Pony of Mine" -- Freeda Baker Nichols -- Clinton, AR  
1HM -- "Just for Bed Time" -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "What if Cats Were Like Dogs" -- Christine Henderson -- Searcy, AR  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "Wild Party" -- Jerri Hardesty -- Brierfield, AL  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "The Witch of Witcher-Re-Woo" -- John McPherson -- Searcy, AR

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**14. L. C. & Pat Bridges Award** -- Chair: L.C. and Pat Bridges; Judge: Laura Bridges of North Little Rock, AR -- 32 entries.

3HM -- "Follow" -- Wendy Visser -- Cambridge, Canada  
2HM -- "Don't Count God Out" -- Von S. Bourland -- Happy, TX  
1HM -- "Show Me The Rainbow" -- Freeda Baker Nichols -- Clinton, AR  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "Moved by the ordinary around us" -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "Leaving My Fingerprint" -- Elizabeth Dail -- Norfolk, AR  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "Dawn" -- Donna Smith -- Greenbrier, AR

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**13. River Market Poets Award** -- Chair: River Market Poets; Judge: Christine Henderson of Searcy, AR -- 23 entries.

3HM -- "After a Couple of Months" -- Barbara Blanks -- Garland, TX  
2HM -- "Thanks for Being There" -- Pat Durmon -- Norfolk, AR  
1HM -- "Leave Your Number" -- Jerri Hardesty -- Brierfield, AL  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- Some thoughts on a most important decision -- Rita Goodgame -- Little Rock, AR  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "Toss My Cookies" -- Elizabeth Dail -- Norfolk, AR  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "Off the Grid" -- Sara Gipson -- Scott, AR

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**12. Poets Northwest** -- Chair: Kate Lacy/Poets Northwest; Judge: members of Poets Northwest -- 16 entries.

3HM -- "Markers" -- Von S. Bourland -- Happy, Texas  
2HM -- "Two Travelers" -- Barbara Blanks -- Garland, TX  
1HM -- "Walking Daniel Boone's Woods" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "Last Kiss" -- Fay Guinn -- Jonesboro, AR  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "The Path Among the Trees" -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "Exit to the Land of Rippling Waters" -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK

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**11. Opal Jane & Harry O'Neal Humor Award** -- Chair: Ben H. O'Neal III; Judge: Bethel Kymes of Hot Springs, AR -- 31 entries.

Judge's comment: Reading each of these poems was a pleasure. The winning poems had humor and wit that were particularly enjoyable. This was a fun contest to judge.

3HM -- "Overweight Cowboy" -- Faye Wise -- Benton, AR  
2HM -- "Fasting Past Addictions" -- Delores Hinde -- Hot Springs, AR  
1HM -- "Intimate Secrets" -- Jerri Hardesty -- Brierfield, AL  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "Good Cookies" -- Dr. Emory Jones -- Iuka, MS  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "Cooking Lesson" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "Big Family Feed" -- Pat Durmon -- Norfolk, AR

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**10. Opal Jane & Harry O'Neal Memorial Award** -- Chair: Ben H. O'Neal III; Judge: Jodi Tooke of Hot Springs, AR -- 33 entries.

3HM -- "Forgotten by Time" -- Von S. Bourland -- Happy, TX  
2HM -- "His Baseball Cap" -- Elizabeth Dail -- Norfolk, AR  
1HM -- "A Closed Passageway" -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "Painting the Door" -- Christine Henderson -- Searcy, AR  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "The Locksmith's Wife" -- Charles Southerland -- Viola, AR  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "Through the Keyhole" -- LaVern McCarthy -- Blair, OK

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**9. In honor of Madeline Queen and Leatha Jorgensen** -- Chair: Poets Northwest; Judge: members of Poets Northwest -- 26 entries.

3HM -- "Stand Still" -- Laura Bridges -- North Little Rock, AR  
2HM -- "Staying Afloat" -- John McPherson -- Searcy, AR  
1HM -- "A Teacher By Any Other Name" -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "This is Also Just to Say" -- Nancy Cook -- St. Paul, MN  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "Siblings" -- Laura Trigg -- Little Rock, AR  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "Facing the Moment" -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR

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**8. Sharp Award** -- Chair: Cathy Moran; Judge: Cathy Moran of Little Rock, AR -- 44 entries.

3HM -- "Home" -- Tanya Whitney -- Sorrento, LA  
2HM -- "Witness to the Fire, 1960" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN  
1HM -- "How a Stranger Fit" -- Sara Gipson -- Scott, AR  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- "Matinee" -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- "The Tomo" -- Rita Goodgame -- Little Rock, AR  
1<sup>st</sup> -- "Philanderer" -- Diane Palfrey -- Cambridge, Canada

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**7. Sentimental Journey** -- Chair: Delores Hinde; Judge: Delores Hinde of Hot Springs, AR -- 18 entries.

3HM -- "Hot Rockin Momma" -- Russell Strauss - Memphis, TN

2HM -- "Only to Forget" -- Cathy Parker -- Alexander, AR

1HM -- "To Wade the Creek" -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR

3<sup>rd</sup> -- "God's Voice to Man" -- Dr. John Crawford -- Arkadelphia, AR

2<sup>nd</sup> -- "Awake" -- Marilyn Joyner -- El Dorado, AR

1<sup>st</sup> -- "Weeping Willows and Overstuffed Pillows" -- Christine Henderson -- Searcy, AR

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**6. Fill in the Blankety-Blanks** -- Chair: Barbara Blanks; Judge: Barbara Blanks of Garland, TX-- 20 entries.

3HM -- "The Perfect Crime" -- Diane Palfrey -- Cambridge, Canada

2HM -- "In the River" -- Jerri Hardesty -- Brierfield, AL

1HM -- "Where Did the Green Men Go" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN

3<sup>rd</sup> -- "Fooling Around" -- Delores Hinde -- Hot Springs, AR

2<sup>nd</sup> -- "Growing Season" -- Christine Henderson -- Searcy, AR

1<sup>st</sup> -- "Shootout on Sassafras Street" -- John McPherson -- Searcy, AR

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**5. Pauline Brown Award** -- Chair: Roundtable Poets of Hot Springs; Judge: Delores Hinde of Hot Springs, AR -- 25 entries.

3HM -- "Self-Propelled" -- Barbara Blanks -- Garland, TX

2HM -- "Found Treasure" -- Faye Wise -- Benton, AR

1HM -- "Whimsical Dreams" -- Donna Nelson -- Kensett, AR

3<sup>rd</sup> -- "After All These Years Without You" -- Russell Strauss -- Memphis, TN

2<sup>nd</sup> -- "Nature's Music and Dance" -- Sara Gipson -- Scott, AR

1<sup>st</sup> -- "An Old Man At The Wall" -- John McPherson -- Searcy, AR

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**4. Crawford Poetry Prize** -- Chair: Dr. John Crawford; Judge: Dr. John Crawford of Arkadelphia, AR -- 22 entries.

4HM -- "A Wish Fulfilled" -- Von S. Bourland -- Happy, TX

3HM -- "Caregiver's Respite" - Pat Laster -- Benton, AR

2HM -- "The Summer Hay" -- Dennis Patton -- Alexander, AR

1HM -- "Unorthodox" -- Cathy Parker -- Alexander, AR

3<sup>rd</sup> -- "I'll Give You a Call" -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR

2<sup>nd</sup> -- "After Reading Tennyson" -- LaVern McCarthy -- Blair, OK

1<sup>st</sup> -- "Unknown Confederate Soldiers" -- Freeda Baker Nichols -- Clinton, AR

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3. **“3 Little Lines”** -- Chair: Fay Guinn; Judge: Fay Guinn of Jonesboro, AR -- 36 entries.

Judge’s comment: Tough competition! Some barely missed winning because they didn’t adhere to syllable count. In one entry, southern dialect made a one-syllable word out of a two-syllable one. Some entries did not make a correct turn in the last line. Overall high quality. With 36 entries I was glad I was judging haiku.

3HM -- “birds flutter and chirp” -- Donna Nelson -- Kensett, AR  
2HM -- “lengthening shadows” -- Terrie Jacks -- Ballwin, MO  
1HM -- “Two peach trees cut down” -- Delores Hinde -- Hot Springs, AR  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- “the rose petals droop” -- Laura Bridges -- North Little Rock, AR  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- “Butterflies dancing” -- Dr. Emory Jones -- Iuka, MS  
1<sup>st</sup> -- “pines shift in west wind” -- Karen Kay Bailey -- Blanchard, OK

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2. **Rosa Zagnoni Marinoni** -- Chair: Pat Laster; Judge: Pat Laster of Benton, AR -- 36 entries.

3HM -- “At the Seniors Dance” -- LaVern McCarthy -- Blair, OK  
2HM -- “The Spirit of Haiti” -- Jerri Hardesty -- Brierfield, AL  
1HM -- “Brother Power” -- Sara Gipson -- Scott, AR  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- “If You Asked an Egyptian Mother About the Exodus” -- Faye Wise -- Benton, AR  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- “A Drowning Man Grasps at a Feather (Old Proverb)” -- John McPherson -- Searcy, AR  
1<sup>st</sup> -- “I am a part of the dirt” -- Cathy Moran -- Little Rock, AR

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1. **Sybil Nash Abrams Award** -- Chair – Dennis Patton. Judge: Sandra Soli of Edmond, OK-- 13 entries.

3HM -- “One House” -- Laura Bridges -- North Little Rock, AR  
2HM -- “Where My Roots Have Always Been: The Jacob Wolf House” -- Elizabeth Dail -- Norfolk, AR  
1HM -- “I Remember Still” -- Renee Ramsey -- Floral, AR  
3<sup>rd</sup> -- “The Ghost of Marlsgate Plantation” -- Charles Southerland -- Viola, AR  
2<sup>nd</sup> -- “Wedding Venue on Seventh Street, Little Rock” -- Stacy Pendergrast -- Little Rock, AR  
1<sup>st</sup> -- “Don’t Underestimate the Warren-Hogan House or the Crumbs Left Behind” -- Pat Durmon -- Norfolk, AR

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## POETS' ROUNDTABLE OF ARKANSAS

Founded February 5, 1931

Member of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc.

<http://poetsroundtableofarkansas.org>

### 2018 Arkansas State Fair Poetry Contest Winners Sponsored by Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas (PRA) October 2018

PRA sponsored Best-of-Show winners and provided prizes indicated below for the 2018 Arkansas State Fair Poetry Contests in four age categories. Only the top 3 winners in each contest are listed, though youth categories receive State Fair ribbons through 10<sup>th</sup> place. PRA will submit press releases on all Best-of-Show winners to their home town newspapers, schools and the statewide Arkansas Democrat Gazette newspaper. Winners also will receive State Fair ribbons and monetary prizes after the fair, as described in the Fair handbook for each age group.

#### **ADULT DIVISION 167 – Ages 19+ (30 Entries)**

##### 01-Nature – (8 Entries)

- 1<sup>st</sup> - #1337 – “Pieta” by Cathy Moran of Little Rock
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - #1333 – “The Tall Ones” by John McPherson of Searcy
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - #2534 – “Farmer” by Dennis Patton of Alexander

##### 02-Life on the Farm – (5 Entries)

- 1<sup>st</sup> - #1705 – “Fleeting Childhood” by Elizabeth Rose of Norfolk
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - #1326 – “A Farmer’s Day” by Sara Gipson of Scott
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - #2535 – “Country August Days” by Dennis Patton of Alexander

##### 03-Day at the Fair – (5 Entries)

- 1<sup>st</sup> - #2536 – “Ribbon” by Dennis Patton of Alexander
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - #1338 – “Fair memories” by Cathy Moran of Little Rock
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - #1327 – “County Fair Conquest” by Sara Gipson of Scott

##### 04-Wild Card – (12 Entries)

- 1<sup>st</sup> & **Best-of-Show** - #2090 – “Whimsical Dreams” by Donna Hensley Nelson of Kensett  
(Adult Best-of-Show winner receives \$25 and free 1-year PRA membership.)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - #114 – “Never Have to Know” by Tim Hurtt of Salem
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - #2855 – “An Image of Grandad” by Susan Brewster of Wilburn

#### **SENIOR YOUTH DIVISION 267 – Ages 14-18 (3 Entries)**

##### 01-Nature - (1 Entry)

- 1<sup>st</sup> & **Best of Show** – #3151 - “To Buffalo River” by Grace Milner of Hot Springs  
(Senior Youth Best-of-Show winner receives \$25 and PRA certificate.)

##### 02-Life on the Farm - (No Entries)

##### 03-Day at the Fair - (No Entries)

##### 04-Wild Card - (2 Entries)

- 1<sup>st</sup> - #1061 – “The Sounds Around Me” by Carlee Nguyen of Wynne
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - #662 – “I Will Follow” by Alyssa Howard of Mena

### **JUNIOR YOUTH DIVISION 367 – Ages 9-13 (8 Entries)**

01-Nature – (No Entries)

02-Life on the Farm – (1 Entry)

1<sup>st</sup> & **Best of Show** - #3332 – “A Shepherd Girl” by Kiersten Priddy of Nashville

*(Junior Youth Best-of-Show winner receives \$15 and PRA certificate.)*

03-Day at the Fair – (1 Entry)

1<sup>st</sup> - #1336 – “A Day at the Fair” by Joe Boone of Searcy

04-Wild Card – (6 Entries)

1<sup>st</sup> - #1335 – “Would My Teacher Believe?” by Joe Boone of Searcy

2<sup>nd</sup> - #1777 – “Life’s Walking Path” by Jaclyn Nelson of Little Rock

3<sup>rd</sup> - #1780 – “Her” by Adrian Chin of Little Rock

### **YOUTH DIVISION 461 – Ages 5-8 (No Entries)**

*(Youth Best-of-Show winner receives \$10 and PRA certificate.)*

Poets’ Roundtable of Arkansas (PRA) is the oldest, non-profit poetry organization in the state. PRA was established in 1931 to encourage the art of poetry and poets in Arkansas. Members are from all around Arkansas and some neighboring states. Past and present Arkansas Poet Laureates have been PRA members. PRA is an affiliate of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS). PRA and NFSPS sponsor educational poetry conferences and contests throughout the year for all age groups. For more information on PRA (and link to NFSPS.com) see PRA’s website: <http://poetsroundtableofarkansas.org>

# Spring 2019 Annual Poetry Contests for Middle and High School Students

Poet' Roundtable of Arkansas (PRA), founded on February 5, 1931, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the study of poetry in the community and to secure a fuller recognition of the works of contemporary poets in the state of Arkansas. PRA is an affiliate member of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS). NFSPS is also a non-profit organization focusing on "the importance of poetry with respect to national cultural heritage."

Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas

# Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas

SYBIL NASH ABRAMS MEMORIAL STUDENT CONTEST

*POETRY CONTESTS FOR ARKANSAS STUDENTS*

**GRADES 6 - 8 (JUNIOR DIVISION) • GRADES 9 - 12 (SENIOR DIVISION)**

*No entry fee • Any subject, free verse, 24 line limit*

## **Rules:**

1. **Deadline: March 1, 2019** (Postmark) • *Please do not submit entries before January 1, 2019*
2. **Awards for Senior Division:** First - \$50; Second - \$30; Third - \$20; Three Honorable Mentions - receive books. • **Awards for Junior Division:** First - \$30; Second - \$15; Third - \$10; Three Honorable Mentions - receive books.
3. **Submit one poem (two copies)** neatly typed or handwritten. Poem must be student's original work: published or unpublished; prized or un-prized. No poem will be returned. Be sure to keep a copy.
4. On one copy only, put student's name, complete mailing address, telephone number, age, grade, teacher contact, and school. **On this same copy, student must certify his/her poem by writing:** *My poem has not been copied in whole or part from another author's work, including poems on the Internet. Sign your name.* Put no identification on the second copy.
5. Mail to Laura Bridges / Student Co-Chairman / 2401 Lakeview Road #1008, North Little Rock, AR 72116

# Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas

## Manningham Trust Student Poetry Contest

### 2019 Annual Competition

Sponsored by National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc.

**1. There are two divisions: Grade 6-8 (Junior Division) and Grades 9-12 (Senior Division).** Each state may submit ten (10) poems in each division. Poems may have been printed and/or have won previous awards. Contests at state level may have occurred anytime in 2018 or 2019.

**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 corner of both copies. One copy must have student's ID in upper right corner. The ID information is student name, school name and address, student grade level, and the student's language arts/English teacher's name. The second copy must not have ID information. 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 35 lines including space lines with no line having more than 60 characters including spaces and punctuation.** Every poem entered should appear on a single sheet. 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. Larger fonts also make it impossible to confine the poem to one page, which is required.

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

**8. Entries must be received by February 1, 2019.**

**9. Mail to** Laura Bridges, Arkansas Student Co-Chairman, 2401 Lakeview Road #1008, North Little Rock, AR 72116

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' report will be sent to each state's Manningham (Youth) Chair by May 20, 2019. 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 2019.



# Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas

## NFSPS ANNUAL STUDENT CONTEST

Subject: *Any*. Form: *Any*, 32 line limit.

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 through 12. Include grade with name and summer mailing address or email address on second copy only.*

How to submit poems:

- a. Send **two** clear copies of the poem, typed, photocopied, or computer-generated, on 8-1/2" x 11" white paper (no onionskin or tissue) in black ink, **single-spaced**. If poem is over one page, staple together all pages of each copy. NFSPS requires Times Roman 12pt font.
- b. On **both** copies, place number and name of contest in upper **left** corner. (#50 Student Award)
- c. On **second copy only**, put name and address, phone number, and E-mail address of poet in upper **right** corner. If a poem is over one page, number pages also on upper right corner (both copies).

Mail all entries at one time, unfolded, in a large envelope. 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:**

**Carla Jordan, Contest Chairman**  
**P.O. Box 2863**  
**Evergreen, CO 80437-2863**

*All entries received with postage due will be returned for proper postage.*

**NFSPS, Inc. will not assume mailing costs and will NOT be responsible for any entries lost or delayed in the mail. This is a national contest and will be judged by a national judge. Entries must be postmarked by March 15, 2019. They may not be postmarked before January 1, 2019.**



## POETS' ROUNDTABLE OF ARKANSAS

Founded February 5, 1931

Member of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc.

<http://poetsroundtableofarkansas.org>

October 25, 2018

Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas (PRA) is pleased to announce two poetry contests for college students in 2019. The 2019 Jeannie Dolan Carter (JDC) Memorial Collegiate Poetry Contest is open to students in Arkansas colleges. The National Federation of State Poetry Societies' (NFSPS) 2019 College Undergraduate Poetry Competition is open to students nationwide. Submission is FREE for the state contest and only \$10 for the national.

**PRA's 2019 Jeanie Dolan Carter Memorial Collegiate Poetry Contest** is open to Arkansas residents, ages 18 to 25, who are attending Arkansas colleges during the submission period of January 1 through **March 15, 2019**. Eligible students may enter one poem. Entry is FREE. Prizes are: 1<sup>st</sup> (\$500), 2<sup>nd</sup> (\$300), and 3<sup>rd</sup> (\$200). See attached contest materials, also posted on PRA's website <http://poetsroundtableofarkansas.org>.

JDC winners will be invited to attend PRA's Dr. Lily Peter Spring Celebration in April 2019 to meet the contest sponsor, Mr. Roger Carter, accept their awards and read their winning poems. PRA also will submit press releases to the winners' home town and college newspapers.

**NFSPS' 2019 College Undergraduate Poetry Competition** is open to students nationwide who are working toward a degree at an accredited U.S. college during the submission period of December 1, 2018 – **January 31, 2019**. This is an annual contest promoted by PRA as a member of NFSPS. Submission fee is \$10. Students must enter a single document with ten poems through Submittable.com. Entries via other means must be pre-approved by the NFSPS CUP Contest Chair, Steven Concert, by January 15, 2019, at [paperlesspoets@gmail.com](mailto:paperlesspoets@gmail.com) or 49 Kitchen Ave., Harveys Lake PA 18618. See attached materials also posted on the PRA and NFSPS websites ([nfspss.com](http://nfspss.com)).

Two NFSPS winners will be notified by email in March 2019. Prizes include \$500 each, publication, chapbook copies, and a travel stipend plus expenses to attend and read at the 2019 NFSPS Convention in Santa Fe, New Mexico, June 23-26, 2019.

Please share these materials with your students. If you have questions feel free to contact PRA President Dennis Patton at [patton\\_dr@hotmail.com](mailto:patton_dr@hotmail.com) or me at [tndsmith@live.com](mailto:tndsmith@live.com).

Thanks for your help promoting poetry in Arkansas colleges.

Donna Smith  
PRA Collegiate Contest Chair



## **POETS' ROUNDTABLE OF ARKANSAS**

**<http://poetsroundtableofarkansas.org>**

### **2019 Jeanie Dolan Carter Memorial Collegiate Contest**

Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas (PRA) is a statewide, non-profit organization established in 1931. It is the oldest poetry organization in the state dedicated to the study of poetry and the encouragement of poets. PRA participates in the National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS).

PRA is again sponsoring a college student poetry contest in the upcoming year. We are promoting this contest to students across the state and asking college faculty to partner with us in sharing materials with students. THERE IS NO ENTRY FEE. This contest will award the top three winners a total of one thousand dollars (1st--\$500, 2nd--\$300, and 3rd--\$200). Materials are attached and posted on PRA's website. We hope you will encourage students to enter this contest. PRA would appreciate any assistance you can provide.

Information about PRA and this contest can be found at [poetsroundtableofarkansas.org](http://poetsroundtableofarkansas.org). Or you may contact PRA President Dennis Patton ([patton\\_dr@hotmail.com](mailto:patton_dr@hotmail.com)) or PRA Collegiate Contest Chair Donna Smith ([tndsmith@live.com](mailto:tndsmith@live.com)).



Microsoft public domain

## **2019 Jeanie Dolan Carter Memorial Collegiate Contest**

### **Sponsored by the Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas**

**Attention Arkansas Collegians:** Do you write poetry? You could win \$500. Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas is pleased to announce the 2019 collegiate poetry contest, open to all Arkansas college students ages 18-25. There is **NO ENTRY FEE**. Entries will be accepted beginning January 1, 2019.

**Form:** Free verse

**Line Limit:** No more than 40 lines

**Postmark Deadline:** March 15, 2019

**Awards:** First Place \$500, Second Place \$300, Third Place \$200

For more information and complete rules visit [poetsroundtableofarkansas.org](http://poetsroundtableofarkansas.org)

# **2019 Jeanie Dolan Carter Memorial**

## **Collegiate Contest**

**Sponsored by Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas (PRA)**

### **CONTEST GUIDELINES**

**WHO:** Arkansas college students, ages 18-25, are invited to participate in PRA's statewide poetry contest for college poets. Applicants must currently be enrolled in Arkansas colleges or universities. The March 15, 2019 postmark deadline will be used as the qualifying date for the age requirement.

**WHAT:** Students may choose any subject for the poem. Please submit one entry per poet in Free Verse form, within 40 lines. Vulgar language will be disqualified.

**WHEN:** Entries will be accepted January 1, 2019 through March 15, 2019 (postmarked). Winners will be announced in April.

**WHERE:** Winners will be invited to receive their awards at PRA's Dr. Lily Peter Spring Celebration in April 2019. Checks will be mailed to winners who cannot attend.

**HOW:** Prizes will be awarded for: 1st Place \$500, 2nd Place \$300, and 3rd Place \$200. There will be no Honorable Mentions or critiques. Judges' decisions will be final. Winners' qualifications will be verified before prizes are awarded.

**RULES:** No entry fee required. Students, ages 18-25, currently enrolled in Arkansas colleges or universities may enter one poem between January 1, 2019 and March 15, 2019 (postmark deadline). Entries must include a completed contest entry form and proof of age (copy of driver's license or other official document showing birthdate). Poem subject - Any; Form - Free Verse; Line Limit - 40; Font - Times New Roman (size 12). Send two copies of the poem, one with no identifying information, one with name/address/email in the top right corner. Poems will not be returned. Incomplete submissions will be disqualified. By submitting a poem, you are declaring that it is your own original work. Plagiarism will be disqualified.

**Mail complete submissions to:** Donna Smith, Collegiate Contest Chair, 58 Briarwood, Greenbrier, AR 72058. For questions contact Donna at 501-679-7324 or [tndsmith@live.com](mailto:tndsmith@live.com) January 1, 2019 through March 15, 2019 (postmark deadline.)

# **2019 Jeanie Dolan Carter Memorial Collegiate Contest**

**Sponsored by Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas (PRA)**

## **CONTEST ENTRY FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

College: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Poem: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your level of interest in poetry and poetry organizations? Mark all that apply.

- ☐ Reading Poetry    ☐ Sharing my poetry    ☐ Learning more about poetry  
☐ Discussion of poetry    ☐ Poetry critiques    ☐ Networking with other poets  
☐ Poetry contests    ☐ Guest speakers    ☐ Workshops    ☐ Publishing my poetry

Would you be interested in joining or forming a PRA branch at your school? ☐ Yes ☐ No

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Be sure to include:**

- ☐ Complete Contest Entry Form  
☐ Two copies of your poem -- one with contact info in the upper right; one without it  
☐ Proof of age 18-25 at time of contest deadline. Photocopy of one:  
☐ College ID (if birthdate is on it)    ☐ Driver's License    ☐ State Issued ID  
☐ Birth Certificate    ☐ Other official document showing birthdate

### **Read the Contest Guidelines for complete contest rules.**

Mail complete entries to: Donna Smith, Collegiate Contest Chair, 58 Briarwood, Greenbrier, AR 72058. For questions contact Donna at 501-679-7324 or [tndsmith@live.com](mailto:tndsmith@live.com) January 1, 2019 through March 15, 2019 (postmark deadline.)

**National Federation of State Poetry Societies**  
**2019 College Undergraduate Poetry Competition**  
**Submission Period: December 2018 - January 2019**

[Click here to Submit](#)

Powered by Submittable 

2018 COLLEGE UNDERGRADUATE POETRY COMPETITION WINNERS

DOWNLOADABLE COLOR POSTER

PRINTABLE GUIDELINES (pdf)

**MEUDT and KAHN AWARDS**

Two winners will be chosen for the College Undergraduate Poetry (CUP) Competition, one receiving the **Edna Meudt Memorial Award**; the other receiving the **Florence Kahn Memorial Award**. For each winner, prizes include:

- \$500 cash prize.
- Publication of the manuscript as a perfect-bound 6"x9" chapbook, that will be marketed through Amazon.com.
- 75 free copies of the chapbook.
- Invitation to read from winning work at the 2019 NFSPS Convention in Santa Fe, NM.
- \$300 travel stipend, if attending the convention.
- Complimentary registration for the entire convention.
- Complimentary dinner on the evening the winners read. (Winners are responsible for the balance of their convention costs, e.g., meals and lodging, and for any guests who accompany them).
- Complimentary one-year membership in an NFSPS-affiliated state poetry society of the winner's choosing and in NFSPS.
- Book release at the NFSPS annual convention. While winners are present at the convention, they will be assisted in selling their stock of books directly and/or in the convention book room and will receive all proceeds from those sales.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Undergraduates working toward a degree in an accredited U.S. college or university during the contest submission period are eligible to enter the CUP Competition.

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

- **Application and Manuscript.** Complete the application form and upload your manuscript file online at [www.nfsp.s.submittable.com](http://www.nfsp.s.submittable.com). The manuscript must be a single document that contains only your title page followed by ten poems. Once you have uploaded the file, you cannot make edits. Acceptable file formats include .doc and .docx (MS Word) and .pdf.

- **Fees.** There is a \$10.00 contest submission fee and no charge to open an account at Submittable.com. You may keep your Submittable account permanently.
- **Submission Period.** An electronic switch will open the Submissions function in the first minute December 1, 2018 and close it automatically at midnight Pacific Standard Time on January 31, 2019. Make sure you know your local time relative to PST. Students in Hawaii and Alaska are advised to submit no later than January 30. Indeed, we urge every entrant to submit early so that our committee can advise if you encounter problems, we likely cannot help if you wait until the last day of the contest.
- **Alternative Submission Request.** Approval by the contest chair's prior approval by January 15, 2019, is required to enter the competition by any other means than online submission as described above. He will decide on a case-by-case basis whether to accept paper manuscripts. Unauthorized paper manuscripts or e-mailed manuscripts will not be accepted. If the chair approves an alternative submission, he will provide you instructions on how to proceed. Send your name, address, **telephone number** and email address with your request to: Steven Concert, CUP Chair, 49 Kitchen Avenue, Harveys Lake, PA 18618. If he allows a paper submission, it must reach him by noon, January 31, 2019.

**MANUSCRIPT GUIDELINES: Not following ALL guidelines disqualifies a submission.**

- **No Identification.** There must be no author identification on any page of the manuscript.
- **Title Page and Ten Poems.** The manuscript will include only the title page and ten (10) original, unpublished poems. Note that poems posted on a public website or public social media are considered published. You will be required to confirm that your poetry is original and unpublished.
- **Titles.** Except for haiku and related Japanese forms, each poem must be titled.
- **Poem Line Width.** Line width limit is 60 characters, including punctuation marks and spaces between words.
- **Erasure poems and others derived from prose.** Contestants may not use any material copyrighted by another author as the basis for their poems. Please identify any source and verify that it is in the public domain.
- **Title Page.** The first manuscript page will include **only the manuscript title**, centered both vertically and horizontally on the page and followed by a page break.
- **Poem Arrangement.** Manuscript page 2 of your manuscript will be the first of your ten poems, with the others following in the order they would appear in a chapbook. Insert a page break after the text for each poem.
- **Fonts and Spacing.** Use a 12-point standard font (e.g., Times New Roman) in black text. Colored text and script, fancy or unusual fonts will not be accepted. Single-space your poems and start lines at the left margin, unless you are **clearly** using spacing as a poetic device.
- **Pagination.** Each page must include a footer with the title of the manuscript in the lower left corner and the page number in the lower right corner.
- **Auxiliary pages (dedication, acknowledgments, cover letter, bio, etc.)** Do NOT include these in your initial entry. If you win, you will be asked for a brief biography and will have opportunity to include the other elements during the editing phase.
- **Literary Standards.** While we honor the First Amendment right of free speech, be aware that any profanity used must be necessary to the literary integrity of your poem. Our judge will view the gratuitous use of profanity as a crutch for shoddy craftsmanship or as cliché that has lost its shock value. The NFSPS will not give prizes for, nor publish work that perpetuates derogatory stereotypes. Nor will it



accept work that is obscene, prurient or sexually graphic, hate-mongering, or abusive of any social, racial, ethnic, religious, or gender group.

## **JUDGING and NOTIFICATION OF WINNERS**

- **Judging.** Manuscripts will be screened for compliance with contest rules. Up to 60 entries will be sent to a judge who will remain anonymous until the winners are announced. Manuscripts are judged blind (identified only by machine - generated number) from those entries complying with all contest guidelines. Decisions are final.
- **Notification of Winners.** By email on Monday, March 11, entrants will be notified of who has won and/or placed in the competition. Winners will be announced in the April issue of *Strophes*, the NFSPS newsletter, available at [www.nfsps.com](http://www.nfsps.com).
- **Contact Information.** If there is any change in your contact information before results are announced, please notify Steven Concert by email at [paperlesspoets@gmail.com](mailto:paperlesspoets@gmail.com). Be sure to provide a mailing address that will be valid even after the spring semester ends.