

The Poetry Society of Tennessee

62nd Annual Poetry Contest

CONTEST RULES

DEADLINE AND ENTRY FEES:

- **Postmarked by Wednesday, August 1, 2018.** Early birds may hand-deliver contest entries to the PST summer social event.
- **Members \$10, Non-members \$15. Contests #1 and #2 have additional fees per entry.** Send check made payable to PST to: Lori Goetz, Contest Coordinator, 2153 Wood Creek Drive, Germantown, TN 38138.
- NO E-MAIL ENTRIES.
- **Questions:** JoAn Howerton, Festival Director, (901) 361-0077; E-mail: joan0620@att.net or Lori Goetz, Festival Coordinator, (901)-753-4385, poetrytennessee@gmail.com.

ELIGIBILITY

1. All categories are open to all poets except as otherwise indicated.
2. Your contest entries must be original and unpublished poems (except those entered in contest #2); the poem may not have won a cash prize in any poetry contest prior to the PST's October 2018 Festival.
3. The same poem may not be entered in more than one category.
4. A poet cannot enter more than one poem in a single category (except for contests #1 and #2).
5. Contests #1 and #2 are open only to members of the Poetry Society of Tennessee; any number of poems can be submitted for \$2/poem.
6. Contest #2 is the only contest which will accept previously published poems.
7. Entries which do not conform to these rules will be disqualified from this and future contests.

FORM

8. Type poems on standard, 8 ½" x 11" white paper; no handwritten poems will be accepted. Submit in 8 ½ x 11 or 9x12 envelopes; folded submissions will not be accepted.
9. Entries must be single spaced, in a readable font style and point size (11 or 12 point). Excessively large or small font will be disqualified. Staple two-page poems on upper left.
10. Submit two copies of every poem.
 - a. Show title and number of contest on the first copy, in the upper left.
 - b. On the second copy, show title and number of contest in the upper left. In the upper right, show the poet's name, mailing address, e-mail address (if available), and PST Member or Non-Member.
11. If submitting a multi-page poem, staple both pages together. Do not use paperclips. Please put poet's ID on both pages of the ID-ed copy.
12. Separate originals from duplicates and stack in numerical order (1-21) with originals on top; no paperclips.
13. Honorable mentions are given as merited by the number of entries in each individual contest and the quality of the material submitted.
14. First place winners (except #2, which allows published poems) will be published in the PST yearbook, *Tennessee Voices*, which sells for \$5 (members) and \$10 (non-members). It becomes available in October 2017. All rights revert back to the poet following publication of *Tennessee Voices*.

WINNERS

All winners will be announced at the PST Poetry Festival, October 6, 2018. Winners will be posted on our webpage, <http://www.tnpoetry.org/>, after the Festival. If you want to receive a copy of the winner's list, enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your entry.

Save the Date — DST Fall Festival — October 6, 2018
Jerri Hardesty — Workshop Leader

BEST OF THE FEST

\$250 is contributed by Marilyn Denington in memory of Michael R. (Mick) Denington. The first place winners in all Festival contests (except contest #2, which allows published poems) will be collected and sent to a special outside judge who will decide which one of the winning poems in this year's Festival deserves this special award. Decision of the judge will be final.

CONTESTS

- 1) **Benefactor's Award**
Form: Any, 40 lines max
Subject: Any
Prizes: \$40/\$30/\$20/\$15/\$10
Special Instructions: This contest is open only to Poetry Society of Tennessee members in good standing. Prizes are awarded from anonymous donations. Any number of poems may be entered; \$2 per entry.
- 2) **Poet's Field Day Award**
Form: Any, 40 lines max
Subject: Any
Prizes: Prizes depend on the number of entries at \$2.00 per entry
Special Instructions: This contest is open only to Poetry Society of Tennessee members in good standing. Prizes are awarded from anonymous donations. Previously published poems are accepted only in this contest. Any number of poems may be entered; \$2 per entry.
- 3) **PST-NE Chapter Prize**
Sponsor: PST — Northeast Chapter
Form: Any, max 50 lines
Subject: Any
Prizes: \$50/\$35/\$15
Special Instructions: Specify name of form on entry.
- 4) **Sarah Catherine Anderson Memorial Award**
Sponsor: Sarah Hull Gurley
Form: Free Verse, 30 lines max
Subject: Shadows
Prizes: \$50/\$30/\$20 + 2 HM
Instructions: None
- 5) **Perrie L. Knorr Memorial Awards**
Sponsor: Diane Clark
Form: Any, 12-40 lines
Subject: Third Time's a Charm
Prizes: \$30/\$20/\$10
Instructions: None.
- 6) **Winklebleck's Choice Award, in memory of Mary Winklebleck**
Sponsor: Barbara Blanks
Form: Sonnet (traditional or variation), 14-16 lines
Subject: Any
Prizes: \$30/\$15/\$10
Special Instructions: Identify sonnet type. Iambic pentameter or octameter is acceptable. Do not invert words to get rhymes.
- 7) **Missing Members Contest**
Sponsor: Sarah Hull Gurley
Form: Any, Line count...??? You May Have To Ask....
Subject: Any
Prizes: \$30/\$20/\$10 + 2 HM
Instructions: None
- 8) **Triple Haiku**
Sponsor: Lori Goetz
Form: Haiku (see instructions), 9 lines
Subject: Any
Prizes: \$25/\$15/\$10
Instructions: Haiku sequence; specify whether you are using a 5/7/5 haiku, modern haiku, or lune (American haiku). All 3 haikus must be the same form. No title.
- 9) **Hindsight Being 20/20**
Sponsor: Lori Goetz
Form: Any, 24 lines max
Subject: Humorous advice to newlyweds or those planning to get married
Prizes: \$25/\$15/\$10
Instructions: None.
- 10) **Poetry Society of Tennessee — Knoxville Award**
Sponsor: Poetry Society of Tennessee
Form: Any, 30 lines max
Subject: Biographical poem, famous person or other real person
Prizes: \$25/\$15/\$10
Instructions: Please visit our Facebook page for poetry events in the Knoxville area or email Sharon.knoxville.tn@gmail.com for information about meetings!

If no specific honorable mention requirements are identified by the contest sponsor, then up to three will be awarded as-merited, to be determined by the judge.

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11) Golden Shovel Award

Sponsor: Sharon Mischler Fox

Form: Golden Shovel

Subject: Any

Prizes: \$25/\$15/\$10

Instructions: Take a line from a poem you admire. Use each word in that line (or lines) as an end word in your poem. Keep the end words in order. Give credit to the original poet. The new poem does not need to have the same subject. Note: if it's a 6-word line, your new poem should have 6 lines. If it's a 24-word line, your new poem should have 24 lines. For more details see:

www.writersdigest.com/whats-new/golden-shovel-poetic-form.

12) Pat Smith Memorial Award

Sponsor: Florence Bruce

Form: Blank verse, 10-50 lines

Subject: Any

Prizes: \$20 + one HM

Special Instructions: unrhymed iambic pentameter.

13) Western Women Award

Sponsor: Gail Denham

Form: Any, 32 lines max

Subject: Word Power

Prizes: \$20/\$10/\$5

Instructions: Use any three from the following nine words: eject, smack, crawl, kneel, kick, shed, sniff, stink, spicy. Have fun. Adhere to the contest rules. Don't be mean or harsh, but in addition, add your own strong words. Any form, up to 32 lines. "Modern poets mix too much water with their ink." — Goethe

14) The Rondeau Contest

Sponsor: Von S. Bourland

Form: Rondeau, 15 lines

Subject: Any

Prizes: \$15/\$10/\$5

Special Instructions: A 15-line French form: aabba; aabR; aabbaR where R is the refrain repeating the first word or phrase of the opening line of stanza #1.

15) Dragon Dreams Award

Sponsor: Angela Logsdon

Form: Free Verse, 10-25 lines

Subject: Dragons

Prizes: \$15/\$10/\$5

Instructions: none

16) Do a Dutrey

Sponsor: Beverly Seaton

Form: Dutrey, 17 lines

Subject: Any

Prizes: \$20/\$10/\$5

Instructions: This poem rhymes and closes with identical refrains, as follows:

A1-A2-b-b-b-a-a-c-c-c-a-a-d-d-d-A1-A2.

17) Bobbie Drobeck Award

Sponsor: Russell Strauss

Form: Any, 10-32 lines

Subject: Interaction between people in two different age groups (example, senior citizens and young adults, adults and teens, teens and toddlers, etc.)

Prizes: \$15/\$10/\$5

Instructions: None.

18) Animals We Love

Sponsor: Anna's Pet Sitting

Form: Any, 16-32 lines

Subject: Animals we love

Prizes: \$15/\$10/\$5

Instructions: Use any form. We love companion animals, but poetry about any animals can be beautiful.

19) Tanka Time

Sponsor: Janet Qually

Form: Tanka, 5 lines

Subject: Any

Prizes: \$15/\$10/\$5

Instructions: Single space, no capitalization unless proper noun. No 5-7-5-7-7 setup. "Modern" short-long-short-long-long preferred.

20) A Night with Shakespeare

Sponsor: JoAn Robbins Howerton and children

Form: Shakespearean Sonnet, 14 lines

Subject: Anything to do with Shakespeare (interview, attending a performance, reading his works, etc.) with a love theme in it

Prizes: \$15/\$10/\$5

Instructions: Shakespearean Sonnets have 14 lines: three quatrains in which the poet establishes a theme or problem, which is then resolved in the final two lines (the couplet. Rhyme scheme: abab-cdcd-efef-gg.

21) Joan T. and Sheron B. Strauss Award

Sponsor: Russell Strauss

Form: Rhymed and Metered, 10-32 lines

Subject: Popular music (songs, songwriters, singers, musical trends, etc.)

Prizes: \$15/\$10/\$5

Instructions: None.

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<http://www.tnpoetry.org/membership-information.html>

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