

# 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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May 2018

### President's Address:

Poets and Members of PRA,

I've discovered that Spring is here. Now, if I can just get it down on paper! She is elusive, but I see traces where she stepped and stopped. I smell the fragrant, lingering perfume she wears. It mesmerizes my soul. She has unrobed and disappeared into the green haze that rises everywhere I look. Can you help capture her with your words?

We had a wonderful Spring Celebration meeting in Little Rock. We were able to announce the Governor's selection of Jo McDougall as our new Poet Laureate. She was our speaker for the program and shared ideas that have made her a well-written poet. We announced winners of the collegiate contest and heard two of the winning poems. There were Junior and Senior High division winners who shared poems while receiving their awards. The prospects of the future of poetry will be in good hands as evidenced by the poetry they shared.

We voted to continue having two meetings each year. In order that it was not a burden on any one branch, we asked members from different branches to take part in bringing all facets of the meeting together. It worked well. Much thanks to Donna Smith who chaired the meeting and kept things moving smoothly, Shawn Southerland for collecting the critique poems and, also, board members who brought coffee and snacks for our breaks. As I sign off, I adjure you to keep pen and pad at hand to capture Spring as she invades your world.

Life is too short to be without poetry.

Dennis

### Dr. Lily Peter Spring Celebration April 14<sup>th</sup>:

PRA hosted this year's Dr. Lily Peter Spring Celebration on April 14<sup>th</sup> at the Cox Building in Little Rock. President Dennis Patton welcomed everyone and announced the newest Poet Laureate for the state of Arkansas, our own Jo Garot McDougall. Jo received a call the day before the event from the Governor's office informing her that she had been appointed. She said, "It's an honor I never dreamed I'd receive." Jo is an author, teacher, poet, Pushcart nominee and winner of numerous prestigious awards.

Our thanks to Jo for leading informative sessions in the morning. She spoke on the importance of story and how to tell it in poetry using "small bursts of surprise." She also advised poets to write about the reality of being human. Good poetry has the power to touch the human heart.

After Jo's presentation, the Light and Serious Verse Contest winners were determined by a vote. JDC Contest Chair Donna Smith introduced winners of the 2018 Jeannie Dolan Carter Memorial Collegiate Poetry Contest - Jake Sawyer of Mena and Alexandra

Borchardt of Monticello – who read their poems. Then Student Contest Co-Chair Laura Loughridge introduced winners of the 2018 Sybil Nash Abrams Student Contests for grades 6-12 - Evie Kinsey of Benton, McKenzie Young of Sherwood, and Millie Allgood of Little Rock – who read their poems. The readings were followed by a brief photo session with the students for press releases. Our thanks to PRA members who helped with statewide outreach and judging of these annual contests.

President Patton then led a business meeting. Highlights are listed below. Last year's Sybil Nash Abrams winner Laura Trigg read her historical poem, "*Separate: The Taborian Hall and Its Dreamland Ballroom*". And finally PRA Contest winners were announced. (See attached list of all contest winners, also posted on PRA's website.)

(During the weeks after the Spring Celebration President Dennis and Frieda Patton delivered certificates to student winners at several middle and high schools in central Arkansas. See pictures and press releases soon to be posted on PRA's website.)

## PRA Business Meeting Highlights of 4/14/18:

1 – Arkansas Poet Laureate Selection: Governor Asa Hutchinson appointed PRA's Jo McDougall as the 7<sup>th</sup> Poet Laureate of Arkansas. She received the Governor's call on 4/13/18. The Governor's office will do a press release and a swearing-in soon. Meanwhile PRA was encouraged to do our own press release. Thanks to Stacy Pendergrass for accomplishing that, along with a promised publication date in the statewide Arkansas Democrat Gazette newspaper on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Watch for it! Also see PRA's website for the press release posted under the "Resources" tab.

Per Act 292 of 2017, McDougall will serve a 4-year term. The new act allowed PRA's input on the nominations for the first time, along with those of higher education representatives. Our thanks to Cathy Moran and Stacy Pendergrass for representing PRA on that committee. PRA submitted 2 well qualified members for nominees – Dr. John Crawford of Hot Springs and Jo McDougall of Little Rock – who were considered by the governor. PRA was proud to nominate both, and we are proud to congratulate Jo on her new role.

2 - Anthology Submissions Due 5/31/18: PRA's Mark Barton (SAPOP-El Dorado) and Kate Lacy (Poets NW-Springdale) are working on an improved version of past anthologies. Its title will be "Turning Home," and its cover (front and back) will be color pictures of a beautiful brick home and a railroad track curving into a grove of golden trees. Mark is soliciting sponsors to fund the book, so members no longer must pay to enter. If you have ideas for sponsorship, promotion or sales contact Mark. Kate as editor is asking each member to submit any winning or published poems from 2016-2017 with the attached cover sheet by 5/31/18. Her goal is to fill 100 pages. Submissions are welcome via email or snail mail. If you have questions or would like to help, contact Kate ([voicedancer0002@hotmail.com](mailto:voicedancer0002@hotmail.com)) or Mark ([drspook1302@suddenlink.net](mailto:drspook1302@suddenlink.net)).

3 - Discussion on Spring Celebration Continuation: President Patton held a discussion on whether to continue with two annual meetings. Members voted to continue having both, but in a central location for easier access by members from all corners of the state. Members/Branches will be asked to volunteer for various needs so that all the hosting work does not fall on central branches. If you would like to help please contact Dennis Patton at [patton\\_dr@hotmail.com](mailto:patton_dr@hotmail.com).

4 – Poetry Day Conference, 10/13/18, in Little Rock: Poetry Day 2018 will be hosted by PRA as a whole on October 13<sup>th</sup> at the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies in Little Rock on the campus of the Central Arkansas Library. The agenda and featured speaker will be determined soon and posted on PRA's website, plus the August newsletter. Each year this conference honors past Arkansas Poet Laureate Rosa Zagnoni Marinoni who established the first Arkansas Poetry Day on October 15, 1948. If you would like to help with any

role in the hosting of Poetry Day please contact President Dennis Patton. See attached Poetry Day Contest Brochure, also posted on PRA's website. The Sybil Nash Abrams contest topic is *Historic Arkansas Homes*. Send entries and payment all in one envelope postmarked by 8/15/18 to Poetry Day Contest Chair Marie Allison at: 165 St. Andrews, Hot Springs, AR 71913.

5 - New Monthly Contest Chair Needed by 6/30/18: President Patton called for a volunteer to be PRA's Monthly Contest Chair in the new year starting July 2018. Our thanks to outgoing Chair Jodi Tooke of Hot Springs for coordinating the contests in this important role. These contests are free, for members only and sponsored by various members for each month of the year, excluding April and October when statewide events are scheduled. Judging results are due by the end of each month and posted on PRA's website. If you would like to volunteer for this role please contact PRA President Dennis Patton.

**PRA Membership Fees Due 6/30/18** for the new fiscal year of July 2018 through June 2019. Dues are \$20 (or \$15 for seniors 65 and students under 18). Send checks along with address/email updates to Membership Coordinator Cathy Moran, 401 Auburn Dr., Little Rock, AR 72205. Also send notice of any changes in branch officers and dates/times/locations of meetings. Yearbooks will be printed in July and mailed in August. **Receipt of your yearbook and the August newsletter will be delayed or cancelled if you are not current on the membership records. Late payment also will affect your eligibility for various contests.**

<p><b><u>Did You Know?</u></b> PRA members are automatically NFSPS members too, with access to other state &amp; national contests.</p>
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### **Notes from NFSPS President Jim Barton:**

Jim thanks the volunteers who answered his call for a host of the 2019 National Convention and a new Chairperson for the 2018-2019 Stevens Manuscript Competition. Both will be announced at the 2018 Convention in June hosted by the Columbine Poets of Colorado in Denver. Jim sends his regards to all, "one smile, one hug, one poem at a time." Jim also sends his thanks for the many cards and letters he received during his recuperation from recent surgery.

In April NFSPS President Jim Barton relinquished his remaining term due to health reasons. First Vice President Julie Cummings of Colorado has assumed the duties of President. If you have any questions email her at [jcumings3@gmail.com](mailto:jcumings3@gmail.com) (or PRA President Dennis Patton at [patton\\_dr@hotmail.com](mailto:patton_dr@hotmail.com)). Julie also is the Columbine President hosting this year's National Convention in Denver. She encourages everyone to attend. May 10<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for making room reservations at the discounted rate. Conference registrations are welcome then too. Julie says, "Thank you for all your work keeping Poetry alive."

### **PRA/State Fair Poetry Contests 2018:**

PRA will continue to sponsor the *Best-of-Show* poetry winners in 4 age categories at the Arkansas State Fair each October. Entry is free and open only to Arkansas residents. See attached guidelines and entry form, also posted on PRA's web site. All poems must be mailed together with a completed entry form in one envelope to arrive no later than September 29<sup>th</sup>. Or entries may be hand delivered to the fair from September 29 - October 6, between 10AM-6PM. Winners will be announced at the fair October 11-21, and posted on PRA's website. Prizes will be mailed after the fair. PRA also will submit press releases for each "Best of Show" winner. See State Fair general information for all craft contests at: <http://www.arkansasstatefair.com/events/2018/creative-arts-information>.

### **Yearbook Updates for July 2017 - June 2018:**

The Roundtable Poets of Hot Springs branch elected Marie Allison as President. Outgoing President John Crawford has served in that role for many years. In fact, John has been a PRA member for 50 years as of this April! Congratulations to John and Marie! Contact Marie at [darrella@live.com](mailto:darrella@live.com).

Welcome new PRA members: Larry Witherspoon of Little Rock, AR; Hazel Wright of Hot Springs, AR; Von S. Bourland of Happy, TX; Jake Sawyer of Clarksville, AR; and Nancy LaChance of Lebanon, MO.

**Online Group:** PRA members, if you're not attending a branch consider joining the Online Group coordinated by Kate Lacy. New participants are always welcome. Contact her at [voicedancer2002@yahoo.com](mailto:voicedancer2002@yahoo.com).

**Old Anthologies:** 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.

**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)).**

PRA Monthly Contest winners are: **January** – 1<sup>st</sup> Barbara Blanks, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cathy Moran, 3<sup>rd</sup> John McPherson, 1HM John Han, 2HM Marilyn Joyner, 3HM Christine Henderson; **February** – 1<sup>st</sup> Sara Gipson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Barbara Blanks, 3<sup>rd</sup> Patricia Laster, 1HM Vivian Barcroft, 2HM Cathy Moran, 3HM Don Crowson; **March** – 1<sup>st</sup> Sara Gipson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dennis Patton, 3<sup>rd</sup> Barbara Blanks, 1HM Laura Loughridge, 2HM D. Beecher Smith, 3HM Patricia Laster; **April** – No contest.

Jo McDougall (River Market) was appointed the newest Arkansas Poet Laureate in mid-April by Governor Asa

Hutchinson. We congratulate Jo as the 7<sup>th</sup> to fill this role. She will serve a 4-year term promoting poetry in the state. Her poetry books will soon be posted on PRA's website, including: *The Undiscovered Room* (published by Tavern Books); *In the Home of the Famous Dead: Collected Poems* (published by The University of Arkansas Press); and a memoir entitled, *Daddy's Money* (also published by the University of Arkansas Press).

Karen Hayes (River Market) hosted a *Poetry for Life* event on April 25<sup>th</sup> at Mosaic Templars Cultural Center in Little Rock. The free event was sponsored by the Arkansas Arts Council as part of the *GetSmART Learning Series*. Karen is a writer, performance poet, speaker, and a certified Alzheimer's Poetry Project coordinator. At the event she led a fun, interactive workshop for individuals 55+. They played with poems aloud, using call and response, and created a group poem together.

Cathy Moran (River Market) placed in the following contests: a 1<sup>st</sup> in Missouri Winter; two 1<sup>sts</sup>, one 2<sup>nd</sup>, two 3<sup>rds</sup> in Mississippi; and a 2<sup>nd</sup> in Massachusetts.

Pat Durmon (Member-at-Large, Norfolk, AR) won a 3<sup>rd</sup> Place at the Lucidity Retreat in Eureka Springs during April. Other PRA winners included: 1HM John McPherson, 1HM Fay Guinn and 1HM Kate Lacy. Pat also has published her 4<sup>th</sup> book of poetry entitled, *Women, Resilient Women*. Check it out on PRA's web listing and contact Pat if you wish to purchase a copy.

Kimberly Vernon (Gin Creek Poets) has a new poetry book posted on PRA's website: *A Rhyme For Every Season*. It's for sale through Amazon.

A free periodic calendar of literary events in the state is available by email. If interested, contact Hope Coulter, Director of the Hendrix-Murphy Foundation Programs in Literature and Language at Hendrix College, 1600 Washington Avenue, Conway, AR 72032, 501.450.1388 or [coulter@hendrix.edu](mailto:coulter@hendrix.edu).

**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**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday each Month:** PRA's Monthly Contest entries are due by mail to Chair Jodi Tooke, 331 Beach Haven Road, Hot Springs, AR 71913. See PRA's yearbook and website for rules, plus links to resources on poetry forms.

**May 10:** Deadline for room reservations and conference registration for the 2018 NFSPS Convention in Denver, Colorado. See details at [www.nfsp.com](http://www.nfsp.com).

**May 31:** Deadline for PRA's Anthology poems. See attached submission form. Send winning poems from 2016-2017 via email or snail mail to Anthology Editor Kate Lacy 2017 E. Magnolia Drive, Fayetteville, AR 72703 (voicedancer0002@hotmail.com).

**May 31-June 3:** NFSPS 2018 Convention in Denver, Colorado. Plan now to join the Columbine Poets of Colorado in the Mile High City.

**June:** Watch for the Arkansas Writers' Conference. See details at [arkwritersconf.org](http://arkwritersconf.org).

**June 30:** Deadline for PRA membership dues and updates on contact information for the new 2018-2019 yearbook. Be sure to include your email address. Dues are \$20 (\$15 for seniors 65 and students under 18). Make checks payable to PRA and mail to Membership Coordinator Cathy Moran, 401 Auburn Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205.

**June 30:** Deadline to fill the role of PRA's Monthly Contest Chair for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. This contact must be listed in the new Yearbook that will be printed in July. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact PRA President Dennis Patton.

**August:** PRA's new 2017-2018 yearbook will be mailed to members in August. General yearbook information also will be posted on PRA's website, excluding member contact data for security reasons.

**August 1:** Postmark deadline for entries in the Poetry Society of Tennessee's 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Contest, offering 21 contests for members and non-members. Check details at: <http://www.tnpoetry.org/>. For questions contact JoAn Howerton, Festival Director, (901-361-0077; Email: [joan0620@att.net](mailto:joan0620@att.net)) or Lori Goetz, Festival Coordinator, (901-753-4385, [poetrytennessee@gmail.com](mailto:poetrytennessee@gmail.com).)

**August 15:** Deadline for PRA's Poetry Day contest entries. See details for 26 contests attached and posted on PRA's website. Send entries and payment all in one envelope postmarked by 8/15/18 to Poetry Day Contest Chair Marie Allison, 165 St. Andrews, Hot Springs, AR 71913. Winners will be announced on October 13<sup>th</sup> at the 2018 Poetry Day event in Little Rock at the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies.

**September 29:** Deadline for Arkansas State Fair Poetry Contest entries to arrive. PRA sponsors *Best-of-*

*Show winners in 4 age categories. Entry is free and open only to Arkansas residents. All poems must be mailed together with a completed entry form in one envelope to arrive no later than September 29<sup>th</sup>. Mail entries to: Arkansas State Fair – Creative Arts, 2600 Howard Street, Little Rock, AR 72206, ATTN: Deb Crow – Competitive Events Administrator. Or entries may be hand delivered to the fair from September 29 - October 6, between 10AM-6PM. See attached guidelines and entry form, also posted on PRA's web site.*

**October 12-14:** Eureka Springs Writers' Conference celebrates its 51<sup>st</sup> annual Ozark Creative Writer's Conference, October 12 – 14<sup>th</sup> at the Best Western Inn of the Ozarks, Eureka Springs. Check the conference website for information.

**October 13:** PRA's 2018 Poetry Day event in Little Rock at the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, 401 President Clinton Avenue. Watch for the agenda and more information to be posted soon on PRA's website and August newsletter.

**November:** Junior/Senior High 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 Loughridge ([llough3@gmail.com](mailto:llough3@gmail.com)) or JDC College Contest Chair Donna Smith ([tndsmith@live.com](mailto:tndsmith@live.com)).

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 129 members, 11 branches, and an online group.

## 2018 Dr. Lily Peter Spring Celebration Contest Winners

**Dr. Lily Peter Awards** - Chair Dennis Patton -- 27 entries -- Judged by Kimberly Wright of Kennesaw, GA

3rd HM -- Von S. Bourland, Happy, TX -- "A Morning Toast"  
2nd HM -- John McPherson, Searcy, AR -- "Passing By An Old Farm Place"  
1st HM -- Harding Stedler, North Little Rock, AR -- "Bones Against the Green"  
3rd Place -- Gail Denham, Sunriver, OR -- "Dad's Voice"  
2nd Place -- Geneva King Emerson, Smithville, AR -- "Peace at Day's End"  
1st Place -- Dr. Emory D. Jones, Iuka, MS -- "Heavenly Peace"

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**Verna Lee Hinegardner Memorial Award** -- Chair Dr. John Crawford -- 17 entries-- Judged by Kai Coggin, Hot Springs, AR

3rd HM -- Cathy Moran, Little Rock, AR -- "To Carry All the Hidden Parts"  
2nd HM -- Barbara Longstreth-Mulkey, Little Rock, AR -- "To Let You Go"  
1st HM -- Dr. Emory D. Jones, Iuka, MS -- "The Raft of Years"  
3rd Place -- Don Crowson, Benton, AR -- "The Poet Within "  
2nd Place -- Pat Laster, Benton, AR -- "Gloves or Bare Hands"  
1st Place -- Fay Smalling Guinn, Jonesboro, AR -- "Jabberwocky"

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**Mary Harper Sowell Memorial** -- Chair Pat Laster -- 24 entries -- Judged by Linda Tappmeyer, Brownsburg, IN

3rd HM -- Pat Durmon, Norfolk, AR -- "Instructions for the Poet"  
2nd HM -- Kim Vernon, Pangburn, AR -- "Faces"  
1st HM -- Dennis Patton, Alexander, AR -- "Swing"  
3rd Place -- Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX -- "Ogden Nash -- Nashurally!"  
2nd Place -- Sara Gipson, Scott, AR -- "Inspired by Spring"  
1st Place -- Joan Pytlik, Little Rock, AR -- "Mary"

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**Spring Celebration Serious Verse Contest** -- Chair Harding Stedler -- 4 entries -- Judged by PRA Spring Celebration Attendees

1st Place -- Cathy Moran -- "A few molecules"

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**Spring Celebration Light Verse Contest** -- Chair Pat Durmon -- 7 entries -- Judged by PRA Spring Celebration Attendees

1st Place -- Karen Hayes -- "Past Tense"

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**2018 Jeanie Dolan Carter Memorial Collegiate Award** -- Chair Donna Smith -- 23 entries -- Judged by Pat Durmon of Norfolk, AR and Diane Stefan of Mountain Home, AR

3rd HM -- Samuel Cross-Meredith -- John Brown University, Siloam Springs (from Siloam Springs AR)  
-- "Blood Hydraulics"

2nd HM -- Rebecca Albert -- University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (from Little Rock, AR)  
-- "Grief"

1st HM -- Lindsey Walker -- University of Central Arkansas, Conway (from Conway, AR)  
-- "Hand-Me-Downs"

3rd Place -- Alexandra Borchardt -- Arkansas State University, Jonesboro (from Monticello, AR)  
-- "Melancholia"

2nd Place -- Meleah Perez -- University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (from Green Forest, AR)  
-- "What I Mean When I Say My Family is Close"

1st Place -- Jacob Sawyer -- University of the Ozarks, Clarksville (from Mena, AR)  
-- "In the Margins"

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**2018 Sybil Nash Abrams Student Contest** - Chair Laura Loughridge

**Senior Division** -- 23 entries -- Judged by Ann Carolyn Cates of Southaven, MS

3rd HM -- Grace Rew, North Little Rock, AR -- "Desirable"

2nd HM -- Grace Cassie, Little Rock, AR -- "Love Letter"

1st HM -- Hannah Brockette, Little Rock, AR -- "Lake Days"

3rd Place -- Stephanie Verdaris, Little Rock, AR -- "Texas and Arkansas"

2nd Place -- Raehana Anwar, North Little Rock, AR -- "i am six"

1st Place -- Annie Knight, Little Rock, AR -- "A Mother's Arms"

**Junior Division** -- 65 entries -- Judged by Cathy Moran of Little Rock, AR

3rd HM -- Millie Allgood, Little Rock, AR -- "If only you knew"

2nd HM -- Naomi Morris, Benton, AR -- "Longing for knowing of happiness unknown"

1st HM -- McKenzie Young, Sherwood, AR -- "Insanity"

3rd Place -- Jacob McGinness, Little Rock, AR -- "Waves"

2nd Place -- Beth Freudensprung, Benton, AR -- "Dewdrop"

1st Place -- Evie Kinsey, Benton, AR -- "If I could say one thing, it would probably be"

PRA Anthology Entries 2016, 2017  
Must be Postmarked by MAY 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018

Email or snail mail to Kate Lacy, 2017 E. Magnolia Dr., Fayetteville, AR 72703, [voicedancer0002@hotmail.com](mailto:voicedancer0002@hotmail.com).

POET'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

**Poem Title** \_\_\_\_\_

Poem 1<sup>st</sup> Line \_\_\_\_\_

Contest or Submission To \_\_\_\_\_

Date Awarded or Published \_\_\_\_\_

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**Poem Title** \_\_\_\_\_

Poem 1<sup>st</sup> Line \_\_\_\_\_

Contest or Submission To \_\_\_\_\_

Date Awarded or Published \_\_\_\_\_

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**Poem Title** \_\_\_\_\_

Poem 1<sup>st</sup> Line \_\_\_\_\_

Contest or Submission To \_\_\_\_\_

Date Awarded or Published \_\_\_\_\_

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*Continue on the back if you are sending more than 5 poems. **Remember: Any Winners from 2016 & 2017***



## 2018 POETRY DAY CONTESTS

### Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas

(<http://poetsroundtableofarkansas.org>)

Encouraging poets and poetry in Arkansas since 1931

Affiliated with National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc. ([www.nfpps.com](http://www.nfpps.com))

#### Open to Arkansas Residents Only

1. **Sybil Nash Abrams Award: \$1,000/\$400/\$250.** Must be historically accurate, original and unpublished. Enclose bibliography (not included in line count) on a separate page. First place winner ineligible to enter contest for four years thereafter. Subject: Historic Arkansas homes. Form: Any. Line limit: 60 – 100. Chair: Committee of winners from the past four years.

#### Open to PRA Members Only

2. **Rosa Zagnoni Marinoni: \$50/\$30/\$20, HM \$10/\$10/\$10.** Subject: Any. Form: Any. Line limit: 36. Chair: Pat Laster.
3. **"3 Little Lines": \$50/\$30/\$20.** Subject: Nature. Form: Traditional haiku (5,7,5). Line limit: 3. Chair: Fay Guinn.
4. **Crawford Poetry Prize: \$40/\$25/\$15, HM \$5/\$5/\$5/\$5.** Subject: Any. Form: Elizabethan sonnet. Line limit: 14. Chair Dr. John Crawford.
5. **Pauline Brown Memorial : \$25/\$15/\$10.** Subject: Any. Form: Lyric rhyme. Line limit: 32. Chair: Roundtable Poets of Hot Springs.
6. **Fill in the Blankety-Blanks: \$25/\$15/\$10.** Subject: Any. Form: Limerick. Line limit: 30. Be sure meter is correct for form. Do not invert words to get rhyme, but made-up words are fine. Chair: Barbara Blanks.
7. **Sentimental Journey: \$25/\$15/\$10.** Subject: Any. Form: Musical lyric. Line limit: 36. Chair: Delores Hinde.

#### Open to All Poets

8. **Sharp Award: \$50/\$30/\$20, HM \$5/\$5/\$5.** Subject: Any. Form: Free verse. Line limit: 38. Chair: Cathy Moran.
9. **In honor of Madeline Queen and Leatha Jorgensen: \$50/\$30/\$20, HM book/book/book.** Subject: What keeps us going strong. Form: Free verse. Line limit: 40. Chair: Poets Northwest.
10. **Opal Jane & Harry O'Neal Memorial Award: \$50/\$35/\$25, HM \$5/\$5/\$5.** Subject: Doors. Form: Any. Line limit: 36. Chair: Ben H. O'Neal III.
11. **Opal Jane & Harry O'Neal Humor Award: \$50/\$35/\$25, HM \$5/\$5/\$5.** Subject: Food. Form: Any. Line limit: 36. Chair: Ben H. O'Neal III.
12. **Poets Northwest: \$50/\$30/\$20, HM \$15/\$15/\$15.** Subject: Paths taken in the forest. Form: Shakespearean sonnet. Line limit: 14. Chair: Kate Lacy/Poets Northwest.



13. **River Market Poets Award: \$50/\$30/\$20.** Subject: I'll give you a call. Form: Free verse. Line limit: 38. Chair: River Market Poets.
14. **L.C. & Pat Bridges Award: \$50/\$25/\$15.** Subject: Christian poetry. Form: Free verse. Line limit: 24. Chair: L.C. and Pat Bridges.
15. **Dr. Seuss Memorial Award: \$50/\$30/\$20.** Subject: Any poetry for children. Form: Any. Line limit: 24. Chair: Donna Smith.
16. **Music on my mind- The song I can't forget: \$50/\$30/\$20.** Subject: Music. Form: Free verse. Line limit: 36. Chair: Rita Goodgame.
17. **Bucket List Award: \$50/\$30/\$20, HM \$5/\$5/\$5.** Subject: Bucket list. Form: Any. Line limit: 28. Chair: Dennis Patton.
18. **Marie Barton & Teresa Dixon Memorial: \$30/\$20/\$10, HM \$5/\$5/\$5.** Subject: What you said. Form: Any. Line limit: 36. Chair: Jim Barton.
19. **South Arkansas Poets of the Pines Poetry Award: \$25/\$15/\$10.** Subject: The Blues. Form: Any. Line limit: 24. Chair: SAPOP.
20. **That's Life Award: \$25/\$15/\$10.** Subject: Kindness Form: Free verse. Line limit: 32. Chair: Laura Loughridge.
21. **Saline County Branch Award: \$25/\$15/\$10 HM \$5/\$5/\$5.** Subject: Any. Form: Any. Line limit: 28. Chair: Saline County Poets.
22. **Crowson Award: \$25/\$15/\$10, HM \$5/\$5/\$5.** Subject: I remember when. Form: Any. Line limit: 28. Chair: Don Crowson.
23. **Two Rivers Poets of Ft. Smith Award: \$30/\$20/\$10.** Subject: Nature's wonders. Form: Any. Line limit: 40. Chair: Mary and Kitty Sangster.
24. **Florence Gibbs Memorial: \$25/\$15/\$10.** Subject: Any. Form: Any. Line limit: 36. Chair: Anna Noack.
25. **Betty Heidelberger Memorial Award: \$25/\$15/\$10.** Subject: Any. Form: Any. Line limit: 36. Chair Anna Noack.
26. **Baker Nichols Award: \$25/\$15/\$10.** Subject: Why I love America. Form: Baker sonnet. Iambic pentameter – aBbcaabcdcdBee. Line limit: 14. Chair: Freeda Baker Nichols.

## CONTEST RULES

1. Mail all entries and fees in one envelope postmarked by August 15, 2018 to Marie Allison, 165 St. Andrews, Hot Springs AR 71913.
2. Non-members may enter all contests for which they are eligible for \$15; members may enter for \$10. Make check or money order payable to "PRA."
3. Submit one typed or Times New Roman (12) original and one copy for each contest entered with no illustrations or embellishments on entries. Type number and name of award in upper left corner of both copies. On duplicate only, place name and address in upper right corner (labels accepted).
4. All poems must be original, unpublished work of the poet, and not under consideration for publication. PRA defines publication as having an ISBN #.
5. Submit only one poem in each contest. No poem may be entered in more than one contest.
6. All contests have a 40 line limit unless a certain line limit is specified by the sponsor.
7. No entries will be returned. All manuscripts will be destroyed.
8. Contest chairs are not necessarily judges.
9. Three honorable mentions will be awarded without prizes unless otherwise specified. Entries not following rules will be disqualified.



# 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 Contests

Sponsored by Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas (PRA)

### Entry Instructions

(Printed with permission from the Arkansas State Fair)

PRA is partnering with the 2018 Arkansas State Fair to sponsor the "Best of Show" poetry winners in 4 age groups. Entry is free and open only to Arkansas residents.

**Prizes:** In addition to any winnings offered by the State Fair, PRA will award the following prizes to the overall "Best of Show" poetry winners: \$25/Adult (age 19+), \$25/Senior Youth (14-18), \$15/Junior Youth (9-13) and \$10/Youth (5-8). The adult winner also will receive a 1-year PRA membership.

**Entry Form:** Complete the attached entry form listing each poem title, division number and class code. Poetry Division numbers are: Adult-167, Senior Youth-267, Junior Youth-367, and Youth-461. Poetry class codes, subjects, line limits and poetry forms are the same across all age groups. See list below.

<u>CLASS – SUBJECT</u>	<u>– LINE LIMIT</u>	<u>– POETRY FORM</u>
Class 01 – Nature	– 24 lines	– Any form
Class 02 – My Life on the Farm	– 24 lines	– Any form
Class 03 – My Day at the Fair	– 24 lines	– Any form
Class 04 – Wild Card – Any subject	– 24 lines	– Any form

**Instructions:** Enter only one poem in each class. In the upper left corner of each poem, put the division number, class number and name of contest. To accommodate blind judging, DO NOT put your name or address on the poem. That information will be on the entry form that must accompany the poems. No entries will be returned.

**Deadlines:** All poems must be mailed together with a completed entry form in one envelope to arrive no later than September 29<sup>th</sup>. Or entries may be hand delivered to the fair from September 29 - October 6, between 10AM-6PM. Submit mailings or hand deliveries to:

Arkansas State Fair – Creative Arts  
2600 Howard Street  
Little Rock, AR 72206  
Attn: Deb Crow – Competitive Events Administrator

**NOTE:** The fair normally requires hand delivery of all entries in the creative arts. However, the fair will accept mailed entries for the poetry contests. If you have questions feel free to call the State Fair staff at 501-372-8341. Or see details at the State Fair's website: <http://www.arkansasstatefair.com/events/2018/creative-arts-information>, with links to the fair's *Creative Arts General Rules, Schedule, Entry Form*, and instruction *Handbooks* for each age group.

**Winnings:** Winners will be announced at the fair October 11-29, and posted on PRA's website. Prizes will be mailed after the fair closes. PRA also will submit press releases for each "Best of Show" winner to their home town newspaper, with pictures if provided. Please remember to include your email address on the entry form to receive prompt notice if you are the Best-of-Show winner.

