



PRESS RELEASE

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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.nfspss.com)

Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas (PRA) is proud to announce that Ms. Jacie Andrews of Hendrix College in Conway has won the 2020 National Federation of State Poetry Societies-College Undergraduate Poetry (NFSPS-CUP) competition.

Ms. Andrews' manuscript, *Sweetwork*, earned her the **Florence Kahn Memorial Award**, a \$500 cash prize, publication of her work plus 75 free copies, and a \$300 stipend for travel to the NFSPS Annual Conference in June to read her poetry. Unfortunately, the 2020 NFSPS Conference was cancelled recently due to the corona virus pandemic. Ms. Andrews' *Sweetwork* will be published in June as a chapbook and marketed through Amazon.com. She will receive all proceeds from her book's sales.

Andrews is a senior at Hendrix College, studying English-Creative Writing and Religion. She was raised in Springfield, Arkansas, but spends most summers in Florissant, Colorado. She also serves as the Creative Writing Program Student Assistant and the chair of the Word Garden Committee, a reading series featuring the best in Hendrix student creative writing. Her parents are Mark and Tammy Andrews of Center Ridge, Arkansas.

Dawn Leas, judge of NFSPS' 2020 College Undergraduate Poetry Competition assessed Andrews's writing as: "brim(ing) with diction, language, and imagery that immediately pulls the reader into a specific time or scene . . . "

Murphy Visiting Fellow in Poetry Dr. Erin Hoover encouraged Andrews to submit her work after having her as a poetry student at Hendrix. Hoover said, "Jacie has written a collection that challenges and pays homage to rural Southern life."

Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas is the oldest, non-profit poetry organization in the state, established in 1931 to encourage the art of poetry. Members are from all around the state, including past and present Arkansas Poet Laureates. PRA is affiliated with the National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS). Both sponsor educational poetry conferences and contests throughout the year for all ages. For more information see the websites listed above. Or contact PRA President Frieda Patton (patton.frieda@gmail.com) or PRA's Collegiate Contest Chair Donna Smith (tndsmith@live.com).



Jacie Andrews, 2020 NFSPS-CUP Winner