

**POETS' ROUNDTABLE OF ARKANSAS
NATIONAL POETRY DAY CELEBRATION
LITTLE ROCK, AR
NOVEMBER 6, 2021**

**WINNERS' LIST
Submitted by Laura Trigg, Contest Chair**

OVERALL RESULTS: A total of 699 poems were entered in 28 contests, the least number being 9; the most, 43. Forty-seven poets participated: AL=2; AR=22; FL=1; IL=1; LA=1; MO=3; MS=3; NE=1; OK=1; OR=1; PA=1; TN=1; TX=4; UT=2; WY=1; Canada=2

1. Sybil Nash Abrams Award -- Chair: Laura Trigg -- Judge: Jo Ann Howerton, Lexington, KY -- 10 entries
Comments: This was very hard to judge but thoroughly worth it. I was so impressed with all of the Maya Angelou poems since I personally met her years ago. Having personally known Verna Lee, she walked the walk and talked the talk of poetry.

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| 1st | "The One and Only Verna Lee" | Dr. John Crawford, Arkadelphia, AR |
| 2nd | "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, Maya's Story" | Dennis Patton, Alexander, AR |
| 3rd | "Just Call Me Angel" | Fay Guinn, Jonesboro, AR |
| 1 HM | "The Verses and Chorus of Maya Angelou's Life" | Elizabeth Dail, Norfolk, AR |
| 2 HM | "A Séance at Mount Holly Cemetery, Little Rock, AR" | Patricia Laster, Benton, AR |
| 3 HM | "From Slave to Chef (The Mary John Story)" | John McPherson, Searcy, AR |

2. Rosa Zagnoni Marinoni Award -- Chair: Larry Witherspoon -- Judge: Pat Durmon of Norfolk, AR -- 24 entries

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| 1st | "Solidarity" | Diane Attwell Palfrey, Ontario, Canada |
| 2nd | "The Write Way" | Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX |
| 3rd | "Grief in the Age of Covid-19" | Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL |
| 1 HM | "Close Neighbors" | Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT |
| 2 HM | "Candleheart" | Diane Reeves, Hartselle, AL |
| 3 HM | "My Forever Friend" | Marilyn Joyner, El Dorado, AR |

3. "3 Little Lines" -- Chair: Fay Guinn -- Judge: Fay Guinn of Jonesboro, AR -- 21 entries

Comments: Thanks for all the wonderful entries. It amazes me what poets can say in "three little lines" and 17 syllables. It was extremely difficult to judge between the top six. But the top three rose to the surface and #1 blew me away with its deep thought and human sentiment. Poets' Roundtable is cream of the crop in writing Senryu!

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| 1st | "Soldier suicides" | Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL |
| 2nd | "The Nature of the Beast" | John McPherson, Searcy, AR |
| 3rd | "Sad morning after" | Ann Carolyn Cates, Southaven, MS |
| 1 HM | "old man supported" | Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX |
| 2 HM | "A poem is a song" | J. B. Hoffsommer, Ft. Smith, AR |
| 3 HM | "Once I understand" | Pat Durmon, Norfolk, AR |

4. Sestina Award -- Chair: Patricia Laster -- Judge: Patricia Laster of Benton, AR -- 10 entries

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| 1st | "Just Follow the Music" | Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL |
| 2nd | "Storm on the Oregon Coast" | Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT |
| 3rd | "The Artistry of Night" | J. B. Hoffsommer, Ft. Smith, AR |
| 1 HM | "The Date That Wouldn't Die" | Dennis Patton, Alexander, AR |
| 2 HM | "A Special Journey" | Sara Gipson, Scott, AR |
| 3 HM | "Time Garden: A Sestina" | Dr. Emory Jones, Iuka, MS |

5. Memories of Verna Lee -- Chair: Roundtable Poets of Hot Springs -- Judge: Roundtable Poets of Hot Springs of Hot Springs, AR (Dolores Hinde) -- 21 entries

Comments: Very difficult to judge—so many good ones except for few that were not minute form. I should have included directions for minute form.

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| 1st | "Under a Winter Moon" | Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX |
| 2nd | "Musical Magnet" | Donna Nelson, Kensett, AR |
| 3rd | "First Experience" | Russell Strauss, Memphis, TN |
| 1 HM | "Arkansas Visits" | Ann Carolyn Cates, Southaven, MS |
| 2 HM | "Returning to the park" | Cathy Moran, Little Rock, AR |
| 3 HM | "Light Show" | Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL |

6. Baker Nichols Award -- Chair: Freeda Baker Nichols -- Judge: Freeda Baker Nichols of Clinton, AR-- 19 entries

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|------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1st | "Late September in 1917" | Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX |
| 2nd | "A Christmas For Heroes" | Dennis Patton, Alexander, AR |
| 3rd | "A Young Soldier's Tears" | Ann Carolyn Cates, Southaven, MS |
| 1 HM | "The Price" | Marilyn Joyner, El Dorado, AR |
| 2 HM | "Shadowland" | Wendy Visser, Ontario, Canada |
| 3 HM | "The pledge of defense" | Cathy Moran, Little Rock, AR |

7. The Crawford Lyric Contest -- Chair: Dr. John Crawford -- Judge: Dr. John Crawford of Arkadelphia, AR-- 19 entries

I would like certificates given for 4th, 5th, and 6th HMs. These 9 poems were all excellent. Some sonnets did NOT follow iambic pentameter rules. Some of the others did not identify the form. I considered strong imagery in choosing the top six.

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| 1st | "Time Limits" | Ann Carolyn Cates, Southaven, MS |
| 2nd | "Hardwood" | Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL |
| 3rd | "The Werewolf of Poetry" | Russell Strauss, Memphis, TN |
| 1 HM | "The Kindest Act" | Dennis Patton, Alexander, AR |
| 2 HM | "Night Plight" | Marilyn Joyner, El Dorado, AR |
| 3 HM | "Eventide" | Wendy Visser, Ontario, Canada |
| 4 HM | "Ode to an Old Bucket" | John McPherson, Searcy, AR |
| 5 HM | "The Times of Our Lives" | Donna Nelson, Kensett, AR |
| 6 HM | "After Katrina" | Dr. Emory Jones, Iuka, MS |

8. The River Poets of Batesville Award -- Chair: The River Poets of Batesville-- Judge: The River Poets of Batesville of Batesville, AR -- 13 entries

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|------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1st | "Papa's Branch of Learning" | John McPherson, Searcy, AR |
| 2nd | "A Summer Cookout" | Dennis Patton, Alexander, AR |
| 3rd | "Basic Psychology" | Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL |
| 1 HM | "She Knew Why She Was in Jail" | Pat Durmon, Norfolk, AR |
| 2 HM | "A Day Kept Under My Hat" | Sara Gipson, Scott, AR |
| 3 HM | "Polenta" | Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT |

9. Arkansas Weather Award -- Chair: Kate Lacy -- Judge: Kate Lacy of Fayetteville, AR -- 9 entries

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|------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1st | "Spring Rains" | Gail Denham, Sunriver, OR |
| 2nd | "The Remnants" | Marilyn Joyner, El Dorado, AR |
| 3rd | "Roper Joe" | Dennis Patton, Alexander, AR |
| 1 HM | "Zeph's Assignment" | Russell Strauss, Memphis, TN |
| 2 HM | "Off a County Road in Arkansas" | Pat Durmon, Norfolk, AR |
| 3 HM | "Deep Freeze" | Dr. Emory Jones, Iuka, MS |

10. Crescent Moon Award -- Chair: Fay Guinn -- Judge: Fay Guinn of Jonesboro, AR -- 22 entries

My contest was a variation of the Jack Collum lunc. The directions stated 3 lines with 5 words in the first line, 3 words in the second line, and 5 words in the third line. Many submissions didn't adhere to these rules. Some confused syllables for words and some did not follow the 5/3/5 format. The shape of the poem should have resembled a crescent moon. I enjoyed judging the entries.

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| 1st | "Silver sliver of the moon" | J. B. Hoffsommer, Ft. Smith, AR |
| 2nd | "Single drop of falling rain" | Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL |
| 3rd | "the savage beast inside me" | John McPherson, Searcy, AR |
| 1 HM | "the neighborhood kids playing baseball" | Dennis Patton, Alexander, AR |

11. Opal Jane & Harry O'Neal Memorial Award -- Chair: Ben O'Neal III -- Judge: John Han of Ballwin, MO -- 36 entries

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| 1st | "Transformation" | Diane Attwell Palfrey, Ontario, Canada |
| 2nd | "Northern Spring" | Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT |
| 3rd | "Acoustics" | Wendy Visser, Ontario, Canada |
| 1 HM | "The Whims of April" | LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair, OK |
| 2 HM | "High Country Spring" | Christian Shute, Cheyenne, WY |
| 3 HM | "Perfection" | Dennis Patton, Alexander, AR |

12. Opal Jane & Harry O'Neal Humor Award -- Chair: Ben H. O'Neal III -- Judge: Sara Gipson of Scott, AR -- 12 entries

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|------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1st | "Playing Partners in Monopoly" | Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX |
| 2nd | "Just the Way It Is" | Marilyn Joyner, El Dorado, AR |
| 3rd | "Catching Guys" | Janice Freytag, Souderton, PA |
| 1 HM | "Losing the Courtesy Game" | Russell Strauss, Memphis, TN |
| 2 HM | "The Choice-the games people play with words" | Fay Guinn, Jonesboro, AR |
| 3 HM | "Solitaire" | Dr. Emory Jones, Iuka, MS |

13. Sharp Award -- Chair: Cathy Moran -- Judge: Cathy Moran of Little Rock, AR -- 42 entries

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|------|------------------------------|--|
| 1st | "What They Bring From Home" | Diane Attwell Palfrey, Ontario, Canada |
| 2nd | "The Whisperers" | John McPherson, Searcy, AR |
| 3rd | "Hope Like a Feather" | Dennis Patton, Alexander, AR |
| 1 HM | "Ode to Mahjongg" | Gloria Williams Tran, Fayetteville, AR |
| 2 HM | "Rescuing Gramps" | Gail Denham, Sunriver, OR |
| 3 HM | "Camping With Twin Brothers" | Sara Gipson, Scott, AR |

14. River Market Poets Award -- Chair: River Market Poets -- Judge: Suzanne Rhodes of Fayetteville, AR -- 31 entries

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|------|---|----------------------------------|
| 1st | "Lightning, From One End of The Sky to The Other" | Phil Flott, Omaha, NE |
| 2nd | "February's Promise" | Pat Durmon, Norfolk, AR |
| 3rd | "Did You Think I Wouldn't Come?" | Janice Freytag, Souderton, PA |
| 1 HM | "Knowing Night" | Terry Jude Miller, Richmond, TX |
| 2 HM | "Missionaries" | LaDeana Mullinix, Farmington, AR |
| 3 HM | "Searching for a Star to Wish On" | Patricia Laster, Benton, AR |

15. L.C. Bridges Memorial Award -- Chair: Pat Bridges -- Judge: Laura Bridges of Sherwood, AR -- 29 entries

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|------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1st | "The Olive Tree Watched" | Marilyn Joyner, El Dorado, AR |
| 2nd | "Hangman" | Janice Freytag, Souderton, PA |
| 3rd | "Yellow Brick Road" | Gail Denham, Sunriver, OR |
| 1 HM | "Faith" | Terry Jude Miller, Richmond, TX |
| 2 HM | "Awakening" | Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX |

16. Tom J. Smith Memorial Award -- Chair: Donna Smith -- Judge: Donna Smith of Greenbrier, AR -- 29 entries

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|------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1st | "The Best of Friends" | Barbara Weatherby, Cotter, AR |
| 2nd | "Our Dog Tripper" | Marilyn Joyner, El Dorado, AR |
| 3rd | "Marley Gone" | Fay Guinn, Jonesboro, AR |
| 1 HM | "My Bear" | Dr. John Crawford, Arkadelphia, AR |
| 2 HM | "Sadie Comes Too" | Pat Durmon, Norfolk, AR |
| 3 HM | "Companions" | Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL |

17. "The Showbound Year" Award -- Chair: Rita Goodgame -- Judge: Rita Goodgame of Little Rock, AR -- 12 entries

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| 1st | "In the space of the snow" | Cathy Moran, Little Rock, AR |
| 2nd | "Solace In Silence" | Elizabeth Dail, Norfolk, AR |
| 3rd | "Oh No! It's Snowing Again!" | Pat Durmon, Norfolk, AR |
| 1 HM | "Trapped Inside" | Marilyn Joyner, El Dorado, AR |
| 2 HM | "Isolation" | Tanya Whitney, Sorrento, LA |
| 3 HM | "Snow is for Christmas" | Dennis Patton, Alexander, AR |

18. Humor Award -- Chair: Dennis Patton -- Judge: Dennis Patton of Alexander, AR --36 entries

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|------|---|------------------------------------|
| 1st | "A Poet's Feet" | Patricia Laster, Benton, AR |
| 2nd | "Youth in My Later Days" | LaVern Spencer McCarthy, Blair, OK |
| 3rd | "Ravin' Mad" | Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX |
| 1 HM | "Cowboy Church" | J. B. Hoffsommer, Ft. Smith, AR |
| 2 HM | "Leave Your Number" | Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL |
| 3 HM | "The Ultra-Modern Hometown Supermarket Blues" | Diane Reeves, Hartselle, AL |

19. Winklebleck Memorial Award -- Chair: Barbara Blanks -- Judge: Barbara Blanks of Garland, TX --39 entries

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|------|------------------------------|--|
| 1st | "Lonesome Hour" | Terry Jude Miller, Richmond, TX |
| 2nd | "Ask" | Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL |
| 3rd | "Transference" | Tim Schulz, Venice, FL |
| 1 HM | "The Demands of Time" | Fred Ablondi, Conway, AR |
| 2 HM | "Cover in the Time of Covid" | Gloria Williams Tran, Fayetteville, AR |
| 3 HM | "Under Tree Roots" | Diane Attwell Palfrey, Ontario, Canada |

20. Two Rivers' Poets of Fort Smith Award -- Chairs: Mary and Kitty Sangster -- Judges: Mary and Kitty Sangster of Ft. Smith, AR -- 35 entries

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| 1st | "Nature Heals" | Donna Nelson, Kensett, AR |
| 2nd | "Sitting on the bank at Salisbury Cove" | Fay Guinn, Jonesboro, AR |
| 3rd | "Playful Spring: A Kyreille" | Dr. Emory Jones, Iuka, MS |
| 1 HM | "Nature's Song" | Laura Bridges, Sherwood, AR |
| 2 HM | "Dragonflies" | Dennis Patton, Alexander, AR |
| 3 HM | "Crossing Heaven Lawn" | Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX |

21. Poets of the Pines Award -- Chair: SAPOP -- Judge: SAPOP of El Dorado, AR -- 20 entries

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| 1st | "Through a Glass Darkly" | John McPherson, Searcy, AR |
| 2nd | "Looking through the window of my world" | Cathy Moran, Little Rock, AR |
| 3rd | "Sibling Revelry" | Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX |
| 1 HM | "From Afar" | Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL |
| 2 HM | "World of Rain" | Mark Hudson, Evanston, ILL |
| 3 HM | "Coming Home" | Janice Freytag, Souderton, PA |

22. That's Life Award -- Chair: Laura Bridges -- Judge: Laura Bridges of Sherwood, AR -- 25 entries

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|------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1st | "Music From Their Mama" | Pat Durmon, Norfolk, AR |
| 2nd | "The Love Song" | Elizabeth Dail, Norfolk, AR |
| 3rd | "Your Music" | Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT |
| 1 HM | "memory of night music" | Cathy Moran, Little Rock, AR |
| 2 HM | "The Voice of World Music" | Sara Gipson, Scott. AR |
| 3 HM | "Sgt. Pepper" | Stephen Schwei, Houston, TX |

23. Jack Hubbard Memorial Award -- Chair: Saline County Branch -- Judge: Faye Adams of Cherokee Village, AR -- 36 entries

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| 1st | "Fertile Fields" | Steven Leitch, West Jordan, UT |
| 2nd | "Death and the junkman" | Cathy Moran, Little Rock, AR |
| 3rd | "Artifact" | Christian Shute, Cheyenne, WY |
| 1 HM | "Improvisation" | Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL |
| 2 HM | "Dark Spots on the Moon" | Russell Strauss, Memphis, TN |
| 3 HM | "An Almost Villanelle About Free Verse, With a Nod to the Pantoum and Sonnet" | Tim Schulz, Venice, FL |

24. Florence Gibbs Memorial Award -- Chair: Anna Noack -- Judge: Karen Moulton of Flippin, AR -- 42 entries

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| 1st | "What to do when you visit your dead father's farm" | Terry Jude Miller, Richmond, TX |
| 2nd | "The Village Bones" | Janice Freytag, Souderton, PA |
| 3rd | "My Father's Woodpile" | Nick Sweet, Shepherd, TX |
| 1 HM | "Winter Concert" | Pat Durmon, Norfolk, AR |
| 2 HM | "Spring Green Boy" | Dr. John Crawford, Arkadelphia, AR |
| 3 HM | "I Am Gone" | Christian Shute, Cheyenne, WY |

25. Betty Heidelberger Memorial Award -- Chair: Anna Noack -- Judge: Christine Henderson of Searcy, AR - 43 entries

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|------|-----------------------------|--|
| 1st | "Elegy for Eight Words" | LaDeana Mullinix, Farmington, AR |
| 2nd | "Blind Amanda and His Eyes" | Lorraine Jeffery, Orem, UT |
| 3rd | "Solitude and Loneliness" | Terry Jude Miller, Richmond, TX |
| 1 HM | "A Townsman of Bergen" | Steven Leitch, West Jordan, UT |
| 2 HM | "Traumatic Brain Injury" | Diane Attwell Palfrey, Ontario, Canada |
| 3 HM | "Sweet and Sour" | Wendy Visser, Ontario, Canada |

26. Miriam S. Strauss Memorial Award -- Chair: Russell Strauss -- Judge: Russell Strauss of Memphis, TN -- 26 entries

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|------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1st | "Sumo's Tree" | LaDeana Mullinix, Farmington, AR |
| 2nd | "Son, Returning Home" | Pat Durmon, Norfolk, AR |
| 3rd | "The Funeral Parade" | Dr. Emory Jones, luka, MS |
| 1 HM | "The Warrior" | Marilyn Joyner, El Dorado, AR |
| 2 HM | "Spring Greetings" | Sara Gipson, Scott, AR |
| 3 HM | "Homes" | Stephen Schwei, Houston, TX |

27. Sonnet Award -- Chair: Sandra Soli -- Judge: Sandra Soli of Edmond, OK -- 22 entries

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| 1st | "Julian 'Cannonball' Adderly" | Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX |
| 2nd | "Dawn Dancer" | Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL |
| 3rd | "The Farmer's Battle" | Donna Nelson, Kensett, AR |
| 1 HM | "Survivor" | Diane Reeves, Hartselle, AL |
| 2 HM | "In Vain" | Patricia Laster, Benton, AR |
| 3 HM | "If I Can Make You Smile" | Fay Guinn, Jonesboro, AR |

28. Gin Creek Award -- Chair: Gin Creek Poets -- Judge: Gin Creek Poets of Searcy, AR -- 16 entries

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|------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1st | "The Knucklehead" | Janice Freytag, Souderton, PA |
| 2nd | "Rising to the Challenge" | Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX |
| 3rd | "Child's Play" | Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL |
| 1 HM | "Willie's Waiting" | Janice Canerdy, Potts Camp, MS |
| 2 HM | "Today's Telephone Activity" | Russell Strauss, Memphis, TN |
