

A Sneak Peek at our 63rd Poetry Festival Workshop Leader —Budd Powell Mahan

Budd Powell Mahan served as the 16th, 19th, and 25th president of the Poetry Society of Texas, the oldest continuously active state poetry society. Mr. Mahan served in multiple offices at the National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS), culminating in NFSPS president from 2004-2006. He was also editor of *Encore* from 1999 to 2004.

He focused extensively on student programs in Texas, running the student awards program for 22 years, with Texas winning 13 consecutive first places in the Student Award of the NFSPS. Nationally, he was Manningham Poetry Trust Chair from 2011-2018.

Mr. Mahan's poetry is in every *Prize Poems of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies* since 1990, except when he selected the judges in 1997. His work can also be read in *Poetry Dallas*, *Behold Texas*, *Of Hide and Horn*, *Galaxy of Verse*, and *A Book of the Year*. His winning poem appears in *Poetry in Motion*, the anthology of those prize winners.

He won the Eakin Manuscript Competition in November 2005 with *Falling to Earth*, and won the Stevens Manuscript Competition of National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc. in 2006 with *Harvest*. His book *Witness* won the 2010 Morris Memorial Chapbook Contest of the Alabama State Poetry Society, and his book *One Saturday* won the Dallas Poets Community Competition in 2011. In 2016 he won the William D. Barney Memorial Chapbook Contest of the Fort Worth Poetry Society with *Names in a Book*.

Formerly a teacher, Mr. Mahan is an actor in the Dallas area, and takes part in speaking engagements and poetry readings. He has won awards for both painting and photography, but he has found his greatest fulfillment through his writing.