

The Poetry Society of Tennessee

64th Annual Poetry Contest

CONTEST RULES

DEADLINE AND ENTRY FEES:

- **Due by Monday, August 10, 2020.** Please do not call or email to verify receipt. NO E-MAIL ENTRIES.
- **Members \$10, Non-members \$15. Contests #1 and #2 have additional fees per entry.** Send check payable to PST to: Lori Goetz, Contest Coordinator, 2153 Wood Creek Drive, Germantown, TN 38138.
- **Questions:** Lori Goetz, Contest Coordinator, (901)-753-4385, poetrytennessee@gmail.com.

ELIGIBILITY

1. All categories are open to all poets except as otherwise indicated.
2. Contest entries must be original and unpublished poems (except those in contest #2); the poem may not have won first prize in any poetry contest prior to the PST's October 2020 Festival. Contest #2 is the only contest which will accept previously published poems.
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. Entries which do not conform to these rules will be disqualified.
7. A poet may submit only one package of entries.

FORM

8. Type poems on standard, 8 1/2" x 11" white paper; no handwritten poems will be accepted. No graphics. If submitting a poem style with integrated art (eye poem, tanka art) please provide form for judge. Submit in 8 1/2 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. Staple multi-page poems on the upper left. Do not use paperclips. Please put poet's ID on both pages of the ID-ed copy.
12. Line numbers are counted as specified in the contest; blank lines are not counted. However, any epigraph or supplemental information will be counted in the total line count.
13. Separate originals from duplicates and stack in numerical order (1-20) with originals on top; no paperclips.
14. Honorable mentions are given as merited by the number of entries in each individual contest and the quality of the material submitted.

15. First place winners (except #2, which allows published poems) will be published in the PST yearbook, *Tennessee Voices*. All rights revert back to the poet following publication of *Tennessee Voices*.
Purchase a copy: <https://www.poetrytennessee.org/publications.html>

WINNERS

All winners will be announced at PST's 64th Annual Poetry Festival, October 24, 2020. Winners will be posted on our webpage, <https://www.poetrytennessee.org/annual-festival-and-contest.html>, after the Festival. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your entry to receive a copy of the winners' list.

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

Instructions: Open only to Poetry Society of Tennessee members. 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

Instructions: Open only to Poetry Society of Tennessee members. 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) Romantic Moment Prize

Sponsor: Howard S. Carman, Jr.

Form: Any, 50 lines max

Subject: Romantic moment

Prizes: \$50/\$35/\$15

Instructions: None.

4) PST-NE Chapter Prize

Sponsor: Poetry Society of Tennessee, NE Chapter

Form: Any, 50 lines max

Subject: Earth Day — 50th Anniversary

Prizes: \$50/\$30/\$20

Instructions: None.

5) The Mary Winklebleck Memorial Award

Sponsor: Barbara Blanks

Form: Rhyming couplets in iambic pentameter, 8-24 lines

Subject: Any subject except religious

Prizes: \$40/\$20/\$10

Instructions: None.

6) Suffragists' Centennial Anniversary

Sponsor: Rose Klix

Form: Any, 40 lines max

Subject: Suffragists

Prizes: \$50/\$35/\$15/\$10 + 6HM

Instructions: 2020 is the 100th anniversary of white women gaining the right to vote; however, Native Americans and African American women needed to wait quite a few more years. The poem may address the struggle in general, or some specific event. The poet could delve into Tennessee history, such as Senator Harry T. Burn casting the deciding vote for ratification, which allowed the 19th Amendment to become law.

7) Charles Frazier Clark Memorial Award

Sponsor: Dr. Diane M. Clark

Form: Any, 20-40 lines

Subject: An unforgettable teacher

Prizes: \$30/\$20/\$10

Instructions: None

NEW FOR 2020!!!

8) Young Adult Contest

Entry Restricted to Young Adults

Ages 16-23

Sponsor: Margaret LoBue

Form: Any, 20-40 lines

Subject: Social issues facing youths in 2020

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

Instructions: At the bottom of the poem, please identify your high school or college; if home schooled, identify your home school association. School identification will not count toward line count.

9) Haiku Sequence Contest

Sponsor: Lori Goetz

Form: Haiku Sequence, 12-21 lines

Subject: Any

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

Special Instructions: None.

10) Joan T. and Sheron B. Strauss Award

Sponsor: Russell Strauss

Form: Rhymed & metered; 10-30 lines

Subject: Patriotic poem; no party politics.

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

Instructions: None.

11) "Write the Real" Award

Sponsor: Gail Denham

Form: Nonet, 9 lines

Subject: Down to earth, real events; humor is always welcome

Prizes: \$25/\$10/\$5

Instructions: This form is rhythmic, but no rhyming (unless internal rhymes). The form is as follows: 9 syllables in first line, 8 syllables in second line, 7 syllables in third line, etc....until 1 syllable in ninth line

12) Pirouette Award

Sponsor: Pete Harris

Form: Pirouette, 10 lines

Subject: None

Prizes: \$20/\$15/\$10

Special Instructions: See form details on the PST blog, poemsamples.blogspot.com.

13) Words = Power

Sponsor: Ruby Jones

Form: Free Verse, 40 lines max

Subject: Any

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

Instructions: None.

14) The Undercover Contest

Sponsor: Anonymous
Form: Any, 40 lines max
Subject: Any
Prizes: \$15/\$10/\$5
Special Instructions: None.

15) Terminology Challenge

Sponsor: Florence Bruce
Any Subject/Any Form, 14-40 lines
Submit a poem which demonstrates effective use of onomatopoeia. The term is defined and illustrated on the PST blog, poemsamples.blogspot.com.
Prizes: \$20 + 1 HM
Instructions: None

16) The Personification Challenge

Sponsor: Florence Bruce
Form: Any, 14-40 lines
Subject: Any
Prizes: \$15/\$10/\$5 + 1HM
Instructions: Use the technique of personification, whole or in part.

17) Think On It

Sponsor: Lori Goetz
Form: Any, 10-20 lines
Subject: Meditation
Prizes: \$25/\$15/\$10
Instructions: None.

18) The Lighter Side

Sponsor: Elizabeth Shelley
Form: Any, 25 lines max
Subject: Humor.
Prizes: \$25/\$15/\$5
Instructions: None

19) Bobbie Drobeck Award

Sponsor: Russell Strauss
Form: Cinquain Sequence, 15-25 lines
Subject: Any.
Prizes: \$15/\$10/\$5
Instructions: See form details on the PST blog, poemsamples.blogspot.com.

20) Jewell Cox Lewis Memorial

Sponsor: Anna's Pet Sitting
Form: Any, 4-30 lines
Subject: Small-town life.
Prizes: \$20/\$10/\$5
Instructions: None.

Not a member? Join us! Download our membership application at:
<https://www.poetrytennessee.org/membership.html>

Come visit us at our websites and FaceBook pages:

PST West Tennessee

- <https://www.poetrytennessee.org/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/PoetrySocietyOfTennessee/>

PST Northeast

- <http://pstne.weebly.com/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/poetrysocietytnne/>

PST Knoxville

- <https://www.facebook.com/PSTKnox/>