

The Poetry Society of Tennessee hosts the 65th Annual Poetry Festival

DEADLINE AND ENTRY FEES:

- Postmarked by Friday, August 6, 2021. Please do not call or email to verify receipt. NO EMAIL ENTRIES.
- Members \$10, Non-members \$15. Contests #1 and #2 have additional fees per entry. Send poems and check payable to the Poetry Society of Tennessee to P.O. Box 770688, 521 Erin Drive, Memphis, TN 38117.
- Questions: Lori Goetz, Contest Coordinator, poetrytennessee@gmail.com.

ELIGIBILITY

1. All contests are open to all poets except as otherwise indicated.
2. All poems must be the original work of the contestant, unpublished in any form, including electronically and placed on exhibition, and not under consideration nor accepted for publication elsewhere. Additionally, the poem may not have won first prize in any poetry contest prior to PST's October 2021 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 contest.
4. With the exception of Contest #1 and Contest #2, a poet may not enter more than one poem in a single contest.
5. Contests #1 and #2 are open only to members of the Poetry Society of Tennessee; for these contests only, PST members may submit any number of poems for \$2/poem (but note Rule #3).
6. Some contests may be open only to Tennessee residents, as specified by contest sponsor. Please note contest requirements carefully.
7. Entries which do not conform to these rules will be disqualified:
 - a. Poets who violate publication and/or simultaneous submission rules will be disqualified and will be asked to refund any prize money that has been issued.
 - b. Poems which do not meet membership or other criteria specified in specific contest instructions will be disqualified from that contest. Poets will not be notified if poems are disqualified.
8. A poet may submit only one package of entries.

FORM

1. Type poems on standard, 8 ½" x 11" white paper; no handwritten poems will be accepted. 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.

2. No graphics unless specifically required by contest instructions or integrated into the poetry form. If submitting a poem style with integrated art (e.g., eye poem, tanka art) please specify form for judge. Do not submit original eye poems, as they will not be returned (color copies are acceptable).
3. Submit two copies of every poem.
 - a. Show contest title, contest number, and form of poem (e.g., Free Verse, Blank Verse, Shakespearean Sonnet, Villanelle, etc.) on the first copy, in the upper left corner of the page.
 - b. On the second copy, show contest title, contest number, and form of poem ((e.g., Free Verse, Blank Verse, Shakespearean Sonnet, Villanelle, etc.) 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.
4. 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.
5. Submitted poems have a 40 line limit for all contests not stating a line limit. Line count includes every line, both printed and blank, except the title and its following space (including epigraphs and supplemental information).
6. Separate originals from duplicates and stack in numerical order (1-27) with originals on top; no paperclips.
7. Submit in 8 ½ x 11 or 9 x 12 envelope; folded submissions will not be accepted.
8. Honorable mentions are given as merited by the number of entries in each individual contest and the quality of the material submitted.
9. First place winners (except Contest #2, which allows published poems) will be published in the PST anthology, *Tennessee Voices*. Second- and third-place winners *may* be published in *Tennessee Voices* on a space-available basis. All rights revert back to the poet following publication of *Tennessee Voices*. The Editor reserves the right to alter line breaks in poems having more than 50 characters per line, including punctuation marks and spaces. Pseudonyms or pen names of winning poets will be honored in *Tennessee Voices* and on winner's lists; however, legal names are required for issuing checks.

TENNESSEE VOICES

To purchase a copy of *Tennessee Voices*, visit <https://www.poetrytennessee.org/publications.html>

WINNERS

All winners will be announced at PST's 65th Annual Poetry Festival, which will be held virtually, on Saturday, October 9, 2021. Winners will also 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. Note poems will not be returned.

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.

1. BENEFACTOR'S AWARD

SPONSORS: Poets of PST
SUBJECT: Any FORM: Any LINE LIMIT: 40 max
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Open only to PST members. \$40/\$30/\$20/\$15/\$10 (Prizes Awarded from Anonymous Donations), any number of poems may be entered, \$2/poem to enter.

2. POET'S FIELD DAY AWARD

SUBJECT: Any FORM: Any LINE LIMIT: 40 max
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Open only to PST members. Any/any, 40 lines max. Prizes depend on the number of entries at \$2.00 per entry. Previously published poems are accepted only in this contest. Any number of poems may be entered.

3. ANN CAROLYN CATES AWARD

SPONSOR: Marilyn Denington celebrating Ann Carolyn Cates' 50 years of membership in PST
SUBJECT: Anything nautical FORM: Any LINE LIMIT: 24-30
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None
PRIZES: \$150/\$70/\$30

4. PST-NORTHEAST CHAPTER PRIZE

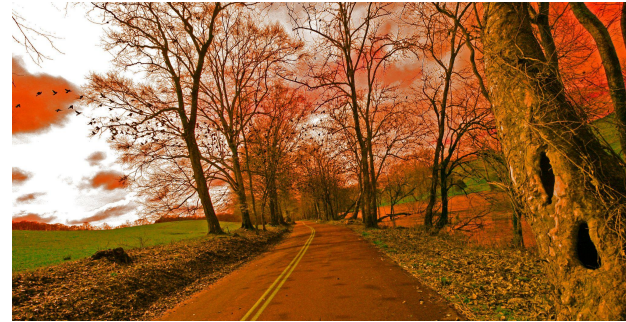
SPONSOR: PST-Northeast
SUBJECT: Any FORM: Any LINE LIMIT: 40 max
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None
PRIZES: \$50/\$35/\$15

5. TENNESSEE LIFE AWARD

SPONSOR: Howard Carman, Jr.
SUBJECT: Life in Tennessee FORM: Any LINE LIMIT: 40 max
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None
PRIZES: \$50/\$35/\$15

6. ...BUT I KNOW WHAT I LIKE

SPONSOR: Kamolnick Kreative
SUBJECT: Any FORM: Ekphrastic LINE LIMIT: 8-44
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Must be an ekphrastic poem. Can be based on visual art, music, sculpture, photography, or other art form. Here is a link to a full size color photo—http://bit.ly/21_PST_No_Escape
PRIZES: \$50/\$25/\$10



7. THE DOLLY PARTON HONORARY AWARDS

SPONSOR: Dr. Diane Clark
SUBJECT: A musical instrument FORM: None LINE LIMIT: 24-40
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None
PRIZES: \$30/\$20/\$10

8. SILKEN DUST

SPONSOR: Eileen Spears
SUBJECT: Silken Dust FORM: Any LINE LIMIT: 20 max
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Use the words silken dust together or separately in title or content of the poem.
PRIZES: \$25/\$15/\$10

9. PST-WEST TENNESSEE CHAPTER PRIZE

SPONSOR: PST-West Tennessee
SUBJECT: Unmasked FORM: Any LINE LIMIT: 40 max
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None
PRIZES: \$25/\$15/\$10

10. WHERE THE SEASONS MEET

SPONSOR: Connie Green
SUBJECT: The edge where one season becomes the next
LINE LIMIT: 42 max FORM: Any
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None
PRIZES: \$25/\$15/\$10

11. LOOKING WITHIN

SPONSOR: Ruby Jones
SUBJECT: Looking Within FORM: Any LINE LIMIT: 5-40
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None
PRIZES: \$25/\$15/\$10

12. IT'S NOT PROSE

SPONSOR: Lori Goetz
SUBJECT: Any FORM: Prose poem LINE LIMIT: 10-30
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None
PRIZES: \$25/\$15/\$10

13. PST-KNOXVILLE PRIZE

SPONSOR: PST-Knoxville
SUBJECT: Urban Wilderness FORM: Any LINE LIMIT: 40 max
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Specify form.
PRIZES: \$25/\$15/\$10

14. TRUST

SPONSOR: Greer Fox
SUBJECT: Trust FORM: Any LINE LIMIT: 14-40
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None
PRIZES: \$25/\$15/\$10

15. WOMBAT AWARD—GOLDEN SHOVEL POEM

SPONSOR: Gail Denham
SUBJECT: Any FORM: Golden Shovel Poem LINE LIMIT: 10-20
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Golden Shovel form- Take a line or two from a poem you admire. Use each word from the line(s) as the end word in each line of your poem. Use each word only once. Keep the end words from the line(s) in order. Give credit to the poet who originally wrote the line(s). The new poem can be a totally different subject from the poem which you borrowed the line(s). I would use no more than two lines from any poet's poem.
PRIZES: \$25/\$15/\$10

16. TENNESSEE-RESIDENT ONLY CONTEST

SPONSOR: Anonymous
SUBJECT: Any FORM: Free verse LINE LIMIT: 40 max
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Entrants must have a resident address in Tennessee.
PRIZES: \$25/\$15/\$10

17. WHY ART?

SPONSOR: Southaven Arts Council
SUBJECT: Why we need or want art FORM: Any
LINE LIMIT: 8-40
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None.
PRIZES: \$15/\$10/\$5
www.southavenartscouncil.org/



18. TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

SPONSOR: Lori Goetz
SUBJECT: Hate Crimes in America FORM: Any LINE LIMIT: 10-40
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: From race baiting to attacks on sacred spaces, America is plagued by hate crimes. This contest is a reflection on our grief, our pain, on reconciliation.
PRIZES: \$25/\$15/\$10

19. MODERN SESTINA

SPONSOR: Sharon Sweeney
SUBJECT: Any FORM: Sestina LINE LIMIT: 39
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: May be traditional (metered) or non-metered.
PRIZES: \$25/\$15/\$10

20. LORI GOETZ HONORARY CONTEST

SPONSOR: Elizabeth Shelley
SUBJECT: Any FORM: Ekphrastic LINE LIMIT: 40 max
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Ekphrastic with picture of piece of art (please submit image on a second sheet of paper, attached to your poem). Written in response to viewing a painting, sculpture, photograph, drawing, or other piece of visual art.
PRIZES: \$25/\$15/\$10

21. TRADITIONAL SONNET

SPONSOR: Connie Green
SUBJECT: Any FORM: Sonnet LINE LIMIT: 14
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Shakespearean or Petrarchan, iambic pentameter, slant or imperfect rhyme are acceptable.
PRIZES: \$25/\$15/\$10

22. PANTOUM AWARD

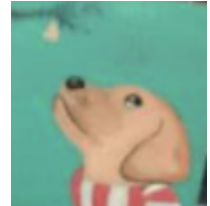
SPONSOR: Florence Bruce
SUBJECT: Any FORM: Pantoum LINE LIMIT: 40 max
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None.
PRIZES: \$20/\$10/\$5

23. JOAN R. AND SHERON B. STRAUSS AWARD

SPONSOR: Russell Strauss
SUBJECT: Any humorous topic FORM: Rhymed and metered
LINE LIMIT: 10-30
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None
PRIZES: \$15/\$10/\$5

24. ANIMALS FRIENDS OR FOES

SPONSOR: Anna's Pet Sitting
SUBJECT: An experience with animals FORM: Any
LINE LIMIT: 8-40
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None
PRIZES: \$15/\$10/\$5



25. BOBBIE DROBECK AWARD

SPONSOR: Russell Strauss
SUBJECT: Food FORM: Any
LINE LIMIT: 10-30
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None
PRIZES: \$15/\$10/\$5

26. ETHEREE AWARD

SPONSOR: Florence Bruce
SUBJECT: Any FORM: Etheree
LINE LIMIT: 10
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Read the instructions for etheree. Message is important for this form, which is otherwise so simple. The judge will be looking for a worthy message.
PRIZE: \$15
Florence Bruce's Poetry Blog: <http://poemsamples.blogspot.com/>

27. REMEMBRANCE AWARD

SPONSORS: PST—West Tennessee Members
SUBJECT: Those we have lost FORM: Any
LINE LIMIT: 10-49
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None.
PRIZES: Prize amounts will be determined based on member donations.