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| _Pic1 | **National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Inc.**  [*wwwInfsps.com*](http://wwwInfsps.com) |

Organized in Baton Rouge, LA - October 17, 1959 Constitution adopted in Philadelphia, PA June 18, 1960 Incorporated in Madison, WI - July 15, 1966

**NFSPS, Inc. is a non-profit organization, exclusively educational and literary. Its purpose is to recognize the importance of poetry with respect to national cultural heritage. It is dedicated solely to the furtherance of poetry on the national level and serves to unite poets in the bonds of fellowship and understanding. NFSPS, Inc. offers fifty national contests each year and conducts an annual convention hosted by one of its affiliated states. The 2015 Convention site is St Petersburg, Florida.**

HONORARY CHANCELLORS  
(In order of appointment)

Joseph Auslander John Crowe Ransom Glenn Ward Dresbach Jessee Stuart

Grace Noll Crowell Jean Star Untermeyer Loring Williams

Harry M. Meacham John Williams Andrews August Derleth

William Stafford

N. Scott Momaday Richard Armour Richard Eberhart James Dickey Judson Jerome John Ciardi

Robert Coles Richard Shelton Marcia Lee Masters Robert Penn Warren Richard Wilbur

William Stafford Rodney Jones Tess Gallagher Michael Bugeja David Wagoner Maxine Kumin Naomi Shihab Nye Li-Young Lee Lewis Turco

Ted Kooser NatashaTrethewey

**56th ANNUAL CONVENTION - 2015  
ANNUAL CONTESTS**

1. **NFSPS FOUNDERS AWARD (To honor Mary B. Wall)** Subject: *Any.* Form: *Any.* 100 line limit. Sponsored by NFSPS, Inc.

1st Prize: $1,500. 2nd Prize: $500. 3rd Prize: $250.

**Entry fee for members and non-members: $5 per poem. Limit: 4 poems per contestant**

1. **WINNERS' CIRCLE AWARD**

Subject: *Any.* Form: *Any.* 80 line limit. Sponsored by previous Prize winners in Contest 1-NFSPS Founders Award: Kaye Bache-Snyder, Shirley Elliott Cosby, Diane Glancy, Harriet Stovall Kelley, Anne McCrady, Polly Opsahl, Marion Brimm Rewey, N. Colwell Snell, Pat Stodghill, Pat Underwood, Lisa Salinas, and anonymous donors.

1st Prize: $500. 2nd Prize: $300. 3rd Prize: $200.

1. **PEACE AWARD**

Subject *Peace through intercultural understanding.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit. Sponsored by: The Shanti Foundation for Intercul­tural Understanding.

1st Prize: $500. 2nd Prize: $300. 3rd Prize: $200.

1. **THE M & S POETRY WRITING CONTEST**

Subject: *Moments.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit. Sponsored by Mil­ton Siegele and Stephanie Detlefsen, two friends who have fun writing poems together.

1st Prize: $300. 2nd Prize: $125. 3rd Prize: $75.

**5. THE MARGO AWARD**

In memory of Margo LaGattuta who encouraged poetry in everyone she met. Subject: *Windows.* Form: *Any.* 50 line limit. Sponsored by her friends. 1st Prize: $225. 2nd Prize: $125. 3rd Prize: $75.

**1. DONALD STODGHILL MEMORIAL AWARD (\*Members Only)**

To honor the memory of Don Stodghill, who served as President of the Poetry Society of Texas and Legal Advisor of NFSPS. Subject: *Any.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit. Sponsored by Pat Stodghill.

1st Prize: $200. 2nd Prize: $100. 3rd Prize: $50.

\*7. **GEORGIA POETRY SOCIETY AWARD (\*Members Only)**

Subject: *The American South- Historical events, cultural aspects, landscapes, weather, etc.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Georgia Poetry Society.

1st Prize: $150. 2nd Prize: $75. 3rd Prize: $25.

**8. POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS AWARD (\*Members Only)** Subject: *Any.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit Sponsored by the Poetry

Society of Texas. 1st Prize: $125. 2nd Prize: $50. 3rd Prize: $25.

1. **THE NFSPS BOARD AWARD**

Subject *Time.* Form: *Any metrical.* 60 line length. Sponsored by NFSPS board members.

1st Prize: $150. 2nd Prize: $70. 3rd Prize: $50.

1. **UTAH STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD**

Subject: *Heritage.* Form: *Any.* 50 line limit. Sponsored by the Utah State Poetry Society.

1st Prize: $100. 2nd Prize: $60. 3rd Prize: $40.

1. **AL LASTER MEMORIAL AWARD (\*Members Only)**

Subject: *An Ekphrastic poem written in response to viewing a*

*painting, photograph, sculpture, drawing,* or *other piece of visual art.* Form: *Any.* 50 line limit. Sponsored by the Connecticut Poetry Society. 1st Prize: $100. 2nd Prize: $50. 3rd Prize: $25.

1. **FLORIDA STATE POETS ASSOCIATION, INC. AWARD** Subject *A celebration of Florida history or culture* or *any other Florida topic, historic or contemporary.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Florida State Poets Association, Inc. 1st Prize: $100. 2nd Prize: $50. 3rd Prize: $25.

\*13. **ALABAMA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD (Members** Only)

In honor of Jeremy Downs, NFSPS President and ASPS member. Subject *A New Day Dawns-anything about dawn, literal* or

*metaphorical.* Form: *Any.* 50 line limit. Sponsored by the Alabama State Poetry Society.

1st Prize: $75. 2nd Prize: $50. 3rd Prize: $25.

**14. ARIZONA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD**

Subject *Writers of the Purple Sage.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit Sponsored by the Arizona State Poetry Society.

1st Prize: $75. 2nd Prize: $30. 3rd Prize: $20.

**\*15. MILDRED VORPAHL BAASS REMEMBRANCE AWARD ("members Only)**

**In loving** remembrance of Mildred Vorpahl Baass, Poet Laureate of Texas, 1993-94 & 1994-95. Subject: *Domestic Cats, their en­dearing habits, intelligence, loyalty, beauty, etc. (no reference to cruelty or abuse).* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit Sponsored by her daughter, Nancy Baass.

1st Prize: $60, 2nd Prize: $40, 3rd Prize: $20.

1. **LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA POETS AWARD**

Subject: *Any.* Form: *Free Verse.* 45 line limit. Sponsored by the League of Minnesota Poets.

1st Prize: $60. 2nd Prize: $40. 3rd Prize: $20.

1. **NEVADA POETRY SOCIETY AWARD**

Subject: *Any Holiday, including Christmas.* Form: *Any.* 80 line limit. Sponsored by the Nevada Poetry Society.

1st Prize: $50. 2nd Prize: $30. 3rd Prize: $20.

1. **INDIANA STATE FEDERATION OF POETRY CLUBS AWARD** Subject: *Any.* Form: *Any Rhymed.* 42 line limit. Sponsored by the Indiana State Federation of Poetry Clubs.

1st Prize: $50. 2nd Prize: $30. 3rd Prize: $20.

1. **WILLIAM STAFFORD MEMORIAL AWARD** In memory of William Stafford, Oregon's late Poet Laureate and

twice Honorary Chancellor of NFSPS. Subject *Any.* Form: *Any.*

40 line limit. Sponsored by the Oregon Poetry Association and

Friends of William Stafford.

1st Prize: $50. 2nd Prize: $30. 3rd Prize: $20.

1. **THE NEW YORK POETRY FORUM AWARD**

Subject: The Art of Poetry. Form: Any. 40 line limit. Sponsored by the New York Poetry Forum.

1st Prize: $50. 2nd Prize: $30. 3rd Prize: $20.

**\*21. COLUMBINE POETS OF COLORADO AWARD (\*Members Only) In** honor of Ida Fasel, master of the Cinquain. Subject: *Any.* Form: *Cinquain.* 25 line limit. Sponsored by the Columbine Poets of Colorado. 1st Prize: $50. 2nd Prize: $30. 3rd Prize: $20.

**22. MORTON D. PROUTY & ELSIE S. PROUTY MEMORAL AWARD**

In memory of Morton D. Prouty Jr., who served as NFSPS Treas­urer and Poet Laureate of Alabama and Elsie S. Prouty. Subject: a *Nature poem.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit. Sponsored by daughters, Catherine P. Horn and Carol R Ostberg and their families.

1st Prize: $50. 2nd Prize: $30. 3rd Prize: $20.

**\*23. POETS ROUNDTABLE OF ARKANSAS AWARD (\*Members** Only) Subject: *Any.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Poets Roundtable of Arkansas.

1st Prize: $50. 2nd Prize: $30. 3rd Prize: $20.

**24. LOUISIANA STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD**

Subject: *Let the Good Times Roll.* Form: *Any.* 40 lines or less. Sponsored by Pat Sipes Juelg, LSPS Past President

1st Prize: $50. 2nd Prize: $30. 3rd Prize: $20.

1. **AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE AWARD (\*Members Only)** Subject: *A poem relating to American Indians, past or present.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit Sponsored by the New Mexico State Poetry Society. 1st Prize: $50. 2nd Prize: $30. 3rd Prize: $20.
2. **VIOLET NEWTON MEMORIAL AWARD (\*Members Only)** In memory of Violette Newton, Poet Laureate of Texas 1973-1974. Subject: *Any.* Form: *Any.* 28 line limit Sponsored by the Poetry Society of Texas. 1st Prize: $50. 2nd Prize: $30. 3rd Prize: $20.
3. **CLAIRE VAN BREMEN DOWNES IVIEMORIALAWARD (Members Only)** To honor the memory of Claire Van Breeman Downes, Contest Chair (1997-99). Subject: *Any.* Form: *Sonnet.* Sponsored by Alan Downes and friends of Claire.

1st Prize: $50. 2nd Prize: $30. 3rd Prize: $20.

**\*28. OHIO AWARD (\*Members Only)**

Subject: *Any.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Ohio Poetry Association. 1st Prize: $50. 2nd Prize: $25. 3rd Prize: $15.

**29. ILLINOIS STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD**

Subject: *Lincoln.* Form: *Free Verse.* 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Illinois State Poetry Society

1st Prize: $40. 2nd Prize: $30. 3rd Prize: $20

**\*30. MINUTE AWARD (\*Members Only)**

Subject: *Capture a slice of life.* Form: *A Minute Poem,* created by Vema Lee Hinegardner. A 60 syllable, 12 line poem in strict iambic meter, syllable count for each line is: 8,4,4,4 /8,4,4,4 /8,4,4,4.

Rhyme Scheme: a,a,b,b,c,c /d,d,e,e,f,f. Capitalize and punctuate like prose. Sponsored by Sharon Martin Turner.

1st Prize: $35. 2nd Prize: $25. 3rd Prize: $15.

1. **POETRY SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN AWARD**

Subject: *Any.* Form: *Free Verse.* 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Poetry Society of Michigan.

1st Prize: $35. 2nd Prize: $25. 3rd Prize: $15

1. **JESSE STUART MEMORIAL AWARD**

Subject: *Any.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Kentucky  
State Poetry Society. 1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize: $15.

**\*33. HUMOROUS POETRY AWARD (\*Members Only)**

Subject: *Humorous.* Form: *Rhymed.* 16 line limit. Sponsored by

Colleen Stanley Bare. 1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize: $15.

**34. BARBARA STEVENS MEMORIAL AWARD**

Subject: *Any Serious Theme.* Form: *Any.* 12 line limit. Sponsored

by the South Dakota Poetry Society.

1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize: $15.

1. **DORMAN JOHN GRACE MEMORIAL AWARD (\*Members Only)** Subject: *Any.* Form: *Traditional Sonnet* (indicate sonnet pattern on entry). Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Poetry Society, Inc. 1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize: $15.
2. **POETRY SOCIETY OF OKLAHOMA AWARD (\*Members Only)** In memory of Maxine Sanford Austin. Subject: *Footprints.* Form: *Any.* 24 line limit. Sponsored by the Poetry Society of Oklahoma. 1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize: $15.
3. **SAVE OUR EARTH AWARD**

In memory of David F. Balph. Subject: *Environmental issues.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit Sponsored by Martha H. Balph.

1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize: $15.

1. **MASSACHUSETTS STATE POETRY SOCIETY AWARD** Subject *Any.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Massachusetts State Poetry Society.

1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 311:1 Prize: $15.

**\*39. POETRY SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE AWARD (\*Members Only)** In memory of Patricia Smith. Subject *Any.* Form: *Narrative poem in blank verse (not free verse; blank verse has meter).* 50 line limit. Sponsored by the Poetry Society of Tennessee.

1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize: $15.

**40. IOWA POETRY ASSOCIATION AWARD**

Subject: Poetry *for Children.* Form: *Any.* 32 line limit. Sponsored by the Iowa Poetry Association.

1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize: $15.

1. **WYOPOETS AWARD**

Subject: *Any.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit. Sponsored by the VVyo­poets of Wyoming. 1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize: $15.

1. **MISSISSIPPI POETRY SOCIETY AWARD**

Subject: *Any.* Form: *Triolet.* Sponsored by the Mississippi Poetry Society, Inc. 1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize: $15.

1. **GINGERBREAD POETS AWARD (\*Members Only)** Subject *Any.* Form: *Sestina.* 39 line limit. Sponsored by the Gingerbread Poets, a chapter of Florida State Poets Association, Inc. and Caroline Walton, Chapter President. 1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize:$15.
2. **SAN ANTONIO POETS ASSOCIATION AWARD (\*Members Only)** Subject *Cradle of Liberty.* Form: *Any.* 32 line limit Sponsored by the San Antonio Poets Association, a chapter of the Poetry Society of Texas. 1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize: $15.

**45. MAINE POETS SOCIETY AWARD**

Subject: *the Sea or Seacoast.* Form: *Any.* 40 line limit. Sponsored by the Maine Poets Society, fostering poetry since 1936.

1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize:$15.

1. **MIRIAM S. STRAUSS MEMORIAL AWARD (\*Members Only)** Subject: *Motion Pictures. May be about a famous film, director;* actor, or *movies in general and their influence on society.* Form: . *Any.* 10-40 Lines. Sponsored by Russell H. Strauss.

1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize: $15.

1. **THE POETS NORTHWEST AWARD (\*Members Only)**

Subject: *Any.* Form: *Any.* 36 line limit. Sponsored by Poets North­west, a chapter of the Poetry Society of Texas, celebrating 29 years of encouraging and inspiring poets in their craft.

1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize:$15.

1. **JESSICA C. SAUNDERS MEMORIAL AWARD**

Subject: *Any.* Form: *Villanelle.* Line Limit: 19. Sponsored by the Shavano Poets Society of Colorado.

1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize:$15.

1. **APPRECIATION AWARD**

Subject: *Gratitude to a person(s) or place. No excessive sentimen­tality* Form: *Any.* 36 line limit Sponsored by Lucille Morgan Wilson, in gratitude for support and encouragement during her 26 years as Editor of Iowa's annual anthology, and the inspiration of as many NFSPS conventions.

1st Prize: $25. 2nd Prize: $20. 3rd Prize:$15.

**`50. STUDENT AWARD**

Subject: *Any.* Form: *Any.* 32 line limit Sponsored by Kay Kinnaman Sims and Nancy Baass.

1st Prize: $50. 2nd Prize: $30. 3rd Prize: $20.

7 Honorable Mentions: $5 each.

**No entry fee required. Open only to students in grades 9 thru 12. Include grade with name and summer mailing address on the second copy only (See Contest Rule 1**