



Florida State Poets Association



2024 FSPA CONTESTS

The contests staged by FSPA are an integral and important part of our service to the world of poetry. By entering our contests, poets everywhere take the step of letting their poetry out into the world and a much wider audience will be able to appreciate their offerings. As a poet myself, I love sharing my work and the wider the audience, the better! Also, writing poetry to the requirements of the contest is a useful exercise, where one can learn about different means of expression and how to make them work for you. If this opportunity intrigues you, just look for information on the FSPA website about how and when to enter our contests.

— Marc Davidson, 2023 FSPA Contest Chairperson

2024 FSPA Contests' Rules and Categories

CONTEST RULES:

Please read carefully and follow all directions.

Any violations will disqualify submission.

ALL POEMS MUST:

- be the original work of the poet
- be unpublished in any form
- not have won more than \$10 in any contest
- be written in English
- be titled unless a sijo or haiku
- have a 40 lines limit unless stated otherwise. Count only the actual lines, not the title or any blank lines between stanzas.
- not be simultaneously entered in any other contest

CATEGORY SPECIFICS:

- The same poem must not be entered in more than one category.
- Categories 1 & 2 are limited to 2 entries per category per poet.
- Categories 3 through 30 are limited to one entry per category per poet.

FORMAT:

- Typed, single-spaced on one side of 8.5" x 11" white paper.
- For preference use 12 point Times New Roman font.
- NO illustrations.
- Submit 2 copies – both with category name and number on upper left.
- Poet's name, address, phone and email on duplicate copy only on upper right.
- Mail all entries together in one envelope with check or money order payable to FSPA, Inc. using regular first class mail.
- Alternatively, this year we encourage you to submit your poems by email. Remember to include both copies of your entry in the email.

FEES:

- Categories 1 & 2 are \$4 per poem for FSPA members, \$5 for non-members (2 poem limit per category).
- Category 13 is free to FSPA members only – non-members pay \$3.00.
- Remaining categories are \$3 each per contest for FSPA members and \$4 each per contest for non-members. Please do not send cash. Make checks or money orders payable to FSPA, Inc.
- Payment may also be made by PayPal to:
FSPATreasurer@aol.com.
If you use PayPal, please email me a copy of the receipt

SUBMISSION PERIOD:

- May 1 to July 15, 2024. July 15th is the "Postmarked By" deadline.

MAIL ENTRIES TO:

Marc Davidson, PO Box 730838, Ormond Beach, FL 32173
or by email to flueln@hotmail.com

PUBLISHING RIGHTS:

- Poets give FSPA, Inc. exclusive first printing rights to all 1st place winning poems awarded in the FSPA, Inc. Annual Contest.
- 1st Place winning poems are printed in the FSPA anthology “Cadence”.
- The Editor reserves the right to alter line breaks having more than 50 characters per line, including spaces.
- Printing rights revert to poet after anthology is published (Oct. 2023)
- Winners’ names will be posted October 2023 on the FSPA website.

CONTEST CATEGORIES:**1. FSPA FREE VERSE AWARD**

Subject: Any. Form: Free Verse. 1 page limit.
1st PL \$100. 2nd PL \$75. 3rd PL \$50. 3 HMs
Entry fee \$4 per poem for FSPA members, \$5 for
non-members. Limit 2 poems. Sponsored by FSPA, Inc.

2. FSPA FORMAL VERSE AWARD

Subject: Any. Form: Formal Verse. (Include form name at top of page.)
1 page limit. 1st PL \$100. 2nd PL \$75. 3rd PL \$50. 3 HMs. Entry fee
\$4 per poem for FSPA members,\$5 for non-members. Limit 2 poems.
Sponsored by FSPA, Inc.

3. THE LIVE POETS SOCIETY AWARD

Subject: The Dark Side. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit.
1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs
Sponsored by The Live Poets Society of Daytona Beach

4. TOMOKA POETS AWARD

Subject: At the Beach. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit.
1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs
Sponsored by Tomoka Poets

5. WILLARD B. FOSTER MEMORIAL AWARD

Subject: A humorous poem about relationships. Form: Any 40 Line Limit. 1st PL \$25.

2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs

Sponsored by John F. Foster

6. THE JOCK G. AND GEORGE K. TERRY AWARD

Subject: Any. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit.

1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HM

Sponsored by Mark Andrew James Terry

7. JUNE OWENS MEMORIAL AWARD

Subject: Squinting into the sun. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit.

1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs

Sponsored by New River Poets

8. NEW RIVER POETS AWARD

(In Honor of our Deceased Members)

Subject: Any. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit.

1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs

Sponsored by New River Poets

9. THE POET'S VISION AWARD

Subject: Faith, Spirituality. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit.

1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs

Sponsored by Janet Watson

10. ALFRED VON BROKOPH AWARD

Subject: A family member. Form: Any lyrical. 30 Line Limit.

1st PL \$40. 2nd PL \$25. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs

Sponsored by G. Kyra Von Brokoph

11. JANET BINKLEY ERWIN MEMORIAL AWARD

Subject: Any. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit

1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs

Sponsored by Poetry for the Love of It (PLOI)

12. KATE KENNEDY MEMORIAL AWARD

Subject: Chocolate. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit.

1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs

Sponsored by B. J. Alligood

13. HENRIETTA & MARK KROAH FOUNDERS AWARD (Free to FSPA Members)

Subject: Wedding. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit.
1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs
Sponsored by FSPA, Inc.

14. PAST PRESIDENTS AWARD

Subject: Any. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit.
1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs
Sponsored by Past Presidents of FSPA

15. ORLANDO AREA POETS AWARD

Subject: Animals. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit.
1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs
Sponsored by Orlando Area Poets

16. LESLIE HALPERN MEMORIAL AWARD

Subject: Dreams/dreaming. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit.
1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs
Sponsored by Orlando Area Poets

17. HUMOR AWARD

Subject: Humor. Form: Any Rhymed & Metered.
40 Line Limit. 1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs
Sponsored by Sunshine Poets

18. CHILDHOOD AWARD

Subject: Children, reading, writing or both. Form: Any.
40 Line Limit. 1st PL \$50. 2nd PL 30. 3rd PL \$20. 3HMs
Sponsored by Bookseedstudio

19. WEINBAUM/GLIDDEN AWARD

Subject: Issues and concerns faced by LGBTQ Community
and those who love them. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit.
1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs
Sponsored by Robyn Weinbaum

20. IRWIN & ESTELLE WEINBAUM MEMORIAL AWARD

Subject: The struggles of marginalized persons everywhere.
Form: Sonnet. 14 Line Limit. 1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs Sponsored by
Robyn Weinbaum

21. THE ENCHANTMENT AWARD

Subject: Paranormal, Fantasy, SciFi. Form: Any.

40 Line Limit. 1st PL \$30. 2nd PL \$20. 3rd PL \$15. 3HMs

Sponsored by Sonja Jean Craig

22. EKPHRASTIC POEM AWARD

Writing inspired by art Subject: An Ekphrastic Poem inspired by a painting, photograph, sculpture, or other piece of visual art. Include name of piece, artist, and where seen if applicable. Form: Any.

50 line limit. 1st Prize: \$25. 2nd Prize: \$15. 3rd Prize: \$10. 3HMs

Sponsored by Elaine Person and Lynn Schiffhorst

23. NORTH FLORIDA POETRY HUB AWARD

Subject: Hope. Form: Any.

1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs

Sponsored by Hope at Hand/NFPH

24. THE LOOK DEEPER AWARD

Subject: Why you admire a poem (other than your own).

Form: Sacred Seven—Starting at the left margin, take 7 lines from a poem you admire (not your own) and use the first letter in each line, in order, to begin each line in your poem about why you admire the other poem. Give credit to the other author. 7 Line Limit.

1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs

Sponsored by Suzanne Austin-Hill

25. THE JOSEPHINE DAVIDSON MEMORIAL AWARD

Subject: Any. Form: Ruba'i—4 lines, iambic pentameter, minimum 3 stanzas, rhyme aaba/bbcb/ccdc etc. Third line of final stanza must rhyme with first line of poem. 40 Line Limit.

1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs

Sponsored by Live Poets Society of Daytona Beach

26. THE BOOK NOT THE COVER AWARD

Subject: The hidden beauty in nature or humankind. Form: Any.

40 Line Limit. 1st PL \$50. 2nd PL \$30. 3rd PL \$20. 3HMs \$5 each.

Sponsored by Tim Schulz

27. THE HOMEPLACE AWARD

Subject: Homeplace. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit.

1st PL \$50. 2nd PL \$30. 3rd PL \$20. 3HMs
Sponsored by Mark Andrew James Terry

28. The SUNCOAST WRITERS GUILD POETRY POD AWARD

Subject: Old Florida. Form: any. 40 Line Limit.

1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3HMs

Sponsored by Suncoast Writers Guild

29. THE IN YOUR OWN VOICE AWARD

Subject: Mental Health. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit.

1st PL \$25. 2nd PL \$15. 3rd PL \$10. 3 HMs

Sponsored by Gary R. Childress

30. THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA POETS AWARD

Subject: New Beginnings. Form: Any. 40 Line Limit.

1st PL \$40. 2nd PL \$30. 3rd PL \$20. 3HMs

Sponsored by CHB Publications.

- [2023 Annual Contests' Award Winners](#)
- [2022 Annual Contests' Award Winners](#)
- [2021 Annual Contest Award Winners](#)
- [2020 Annual Contest Award Winners](#)
- [2019 Annual Contest Award Winners](#)
- [2018 Annual Contest Award Winners](#)

- **[FSPA Contest Sponsorship Form](#)**
- **[Student Poetry Annual Contest Award Winners](#)**

Also visit the National Federation of State Poetry Societies website for upcoming 2023 NFSPS contests! <https://nfspss.com/contests.htm>

** As FSPA is a member of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS), all FSPA members are also NFSPS members.*

Special FSPA Poetry Contests for Young People: [The Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award for Young People](#)