

MPS 2018 SPRING FESTIVAL CONTEST

BEST OF THE FEST AWARD \$250!—Contributed by Marilyn Denington in memory of Michael R. (Mick) Denington. First place winners in ALL Festival categories will be collected and sent to an outside judge who will decide which one of the winning poems in this year's Festival deserves this special award. The decision of the judge is final.

- 1 **MISSISSIPPI POETRY SOCIETY 2018 AWARD** (sponsored by MPS)
Open to Mississippi residents only.
Form—Open
Subject—Anything to do with Mississippi
Line limit—100
Prizes—1st--\$100; 2nd--\$50; 3rd--\$25; HM's as merited.
- 2 **PRESIDENT'S AWARD** (sponsored by Michael Shelton)
Form—Traditional rhymed couplet
Subject—Open
Line limit—24
Prizes—1st--\$20; 2nd--\$10; 3rd--\$5; 3 HM's as merited.
- 3 **PAST PRESIDENTS' AWARD** (sponsored by Judy Davies and Brenda Finnegan)
Open to MPS members only.
Form—Trimeric
Subject—Open
Line limit—13
Prizes—1st--\$30; 2nd--\$20; 3rd--\$10; up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 4 **MPS NORTH BRANCH AWARD** (sponsored by North Branch, MPS)
Open to MPS members only.
Form—English sonnet
Subject—Open
Line limit—14
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; up to 5 HM's as merited.
- 5 **MPS CENTRAL BRANCH AWARD** (sponsored by Central Branch, MPS)
Open to MPS members only.
Form—Open
Subject—Open
Line limit—40
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 6 **MPS CENTRAL BRANCH BELHAVEN AWARD** (sponsored by Central Branch, MPS)
Form—Open
Subject—Epiphany
Line limit—40
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; Up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 7 **MPS SOUTH BRANCH AWARD** (sponsored by South Branch, MPS)
Form—Traditional villanelle
Subject—Open
Line limit—19
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; Up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 8 **GRANDS AWARD** (sponsored by Emory D. Jones)
Form—Open
Subject—Grandparents or Grandchildren

- Line limit—40
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; up to 6 HM's.
- 9 **EKPHRASTIC AWARD**-poem based on another art form (sponsored by Emory D. Jones)
Form—Open
Subject—Open
Line limit—40
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; HM's as merited.
- 10 **KATHY McCALL MEMORIAL AWARD** (sponsored by Elaine McDermott)
Form—Free verse
Subject—What I Like About the South
Line limit—32
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; up to 2 HM's as merited.
- 11 **QUINCY LONG MEMORIAL AWARD** (sponsored by Betty Malone)
Form—Free verse
Subject—Gardening
Line Limit—30
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; up to 2 HM's as merited.
- 12 **BURNHAM DRUGS AWARD** (sponsored by Greg Spanier)
Form—Rhymed verse
Subject—Open
Line Limit—40
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 13 **IT'S A BEAUTIFUL MORNING!** (sponsored by Patty Butkovich)
Form—Open
Subject—Anything Beautiful
Line Limit—32
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 14 **RUTH RICHMOND AWARD** (sponsored by Ruth Richmond)
Form—Open
Subject—Books
Line Limit—40
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 15 **NARRATIVE POEM AWARD** (sponsored by Janice Canerdy)
Form—Rhymed, metered
Subject—Open
Line Limit—40
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 16 **COASTAL INSURANCE AWARD** (sponsored by Coastal Ins. Assoc.)
Form—Traditional sonnet
Subject—A Coastal Vacation
Line Limit—14
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 17 **WINKLEBLECK'S CHOICE AWARD** (sponsored by Barbara Blanks)
Form—Open
Subject—Open
Line Limit—40
Prizes—1st--\$30; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 18 **JAMES GEORGE/JEFFERSON DAVIS AWARD** (sponsored by Douglas Taylor)
Form—Any, except free verse

- Subject—Desecration of Confederate Memorials
Line Limit—40
Prizes—1st--\$50; 2nd--\$30; 3rd--\$20; up to 4 HM's as merited.
- 19 **MEDIEVAL THEME AWARD** (sponsored by Elizabeth Clayton)
Form—Lyric poetry in free verse
Subject—Encourages beauty, truth, faith, honor, love or good in the Medieval arena.
Line Limit—40
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; up to 2 HM's as merited.
- 20 **PSYCHOLOGICAL THEME AWARD** (sponsored by Elizabeth Clayton)
Form—Open
Subject—Self or an element of psychology—motivation, esteem, depression, etc.
Line Limit—40
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; up to 2 HM's as merited.
- 21 **CALVARY-ITS MEANING AWARD** (sponsored by Grace Fletcher)
Form—Open
Subject—Calvary-Its Meaning
Line Limit—40
Prizes—1st--\$15; 2nd--\$10; 3rd--\$5; up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 22 **SCARLETT JO AWARD** (sponsored by Ann Carolyn Cates in honor of her new great granddaughter).
Form—New Form: Free verse or rhymed with lines 1 and 12 repeating.
Subject—Fun things kids 12 and under like to do.
Line Limit—12
Prizes—1st--\$15; 2nd--\$10; 3rd--\$5; up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 23 **GCWA AWARD** (sponsored by Gulf Coast Writers Association)
Form—Villanelle
Subject—Open
Line Limit—19
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 24 **BARRON & DESSIE CAULFIELD MEMORIAL AWARD** (sponsored by Dorothy Wiman)
Form—Villanelle
Subject—Open
Line Limit—19
Prizes—1st--\$50; 2nd--\$30; 3rd--\$20; up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 25 **J. MANZO AWARD** (sponsored by Jessica Manzo)
Form—Lyric Poetry-Palindrome (sentence length)
Subject—New Beginnings
Line Limit—16
Prizes—1st--\$15; 2nd--\$10; 3rd--\$5; up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 26 **JAMES EDWARD CROW MEMORIAL AWARD** (sponsored by Joan Crow)
Form—Open
Subject—Public Servants (i.e. police officers, firemen, first responders, etc.)
Line Limit—32
Prizes—1st--\$25; 2nd--\$15; 3rd--\$10; up to 3 HM's as merited.
- 27 **NEIL AND MARCIA MULLANEY AWARD** (sponsored by Elaine McDermott)
Form—Free verse
Subject—Springtime in New England
Line Limit—36
Prizes—1st--\$75; 2nd--\$50; 3rd--\$25; up to 3 HM's as merited.

MISSISSIPPI POETRY SOCIETY SPRING CONTEST RULES

ELIGIBILITY: All categories are open to all poets except where otherwise indicated.

1. Poems must be the original work of the entrant and must not have won or placed in any poetry contest prior to the awarding of the MPS Spring 2018 awards, other than honorable mention.
2. Poems entered in this contest must not have been published anywhere before.
3. A poet may not enter the same poem in more than one category, and may not enter more than one poem in a single category.
4. By submitting poems in this competition, poets are confirming that the same has not been a winner in any other contest and has not been published anywhere. Poets acknowledge that they may be barred from entering future contests if found to be in violation of this rule.

FORM:

5. Entries must be typed single-spaced in black ink on regular 8.5" x 11" computer-generated paper or typewritten and submitted in an 8½ x 11 or 9 x 12 mailing envelope. Poems must be formatted on the page so that all verses can be read by the judges without difficulty.
6. All entries must meet the form requirement and line limit specified by the category entered.
7. Submit two (2) copies of each poem per category with the following distinction:
 - a. The first must show the poet's name, complete U. S. mailing address, email address (if available), and "MPS Member" or "Non-Member" in the upper right corner. The category number and category title should appear in the upper left corner. This must be the typed original and NOT a photocopy of any kind.
 - b. The second, which must be a copy of the original, must show the number and title of the category in the upper left corner. No personal identification should be shown on this copy.
8. If a poem runs more than one page, staple the pages together. PLEASE DO NOT USE PAPERCLIPS.
9. Failure to follow these rules will result in disqualification.

ENTRY FEES: The entry fee is \$1 per poem for MPS members, with a maximum fee of \$10 to enter all categories. The entry fee for non-members is \$2 per poem, with a maximum fee of \$20. Fees must be included with the entries. Checks should be made payable to Mississippi Poetry Society, Inc. A returned check automatically nullifies any award or honorable mention and a fee of \$20.00 is required before the entrant can enter an MPS contest again.

DEADLINE: All entries must be received no later than **March 1, 2018**. No entries received after this date will be accepted. After the awards festival, a copy of the winners list will be available at www.misspoetry.net. Prize checks should be cashed within 60 days or the prize will be forfeited. The winning poems will be published in our yearly anthology, *The Mississippi Poetry Journal*.

MAIL ENTRIES AND FEES TO:

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