Writers Unlimited-MPS South Branch  
45th Annual Literary Competition  
2016 Winners List

Category 1 – Writers Unlimited Award (Judge: Jeanne Kelly)  
First Place: Nancy Cook, St. Paul, MN *A Fine Logic*  
Second Place: Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX *Ella and the Icon Currently Known as Prints*  
Third Place: Dr. Philip L. Levin, Biloxi, MS *Aurora*  
HM1: Dorothy Rogers, Lucedale, MS *The Burning*  
HM2: Karen Liebhaber, Pocahontas, AR *The Mill Rat*  
HM3: Judy Davies, Gautier, MS *Hemingway's House*

Category 2 – Chevron Products/Pascagoula Refinery Award (Judge: Betty Malone)  
First Place: Nancy Cook, St. Paul, MN *Pa'ella*  
Second Place: Dr. Philip L. Levin, Biloxi, MS *The Drug Raid*  
Third Place: Beth Z. Staas, LaGrange Park, IL *The Best Money Can Buy*  
HM1: Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX *Sour Milk*  
HM2: Karen Liebhaber, Pocahontas, AR *The Burden of Heritage*  
HM3: Jeanne S. Kelly, Madison, MS *Betty Sue's Baby*

Category 3 – Coastal Insurance Award (Judge: Bonnie Kidd)  
First Place: Nancy Cook, St. Paul, MN *Breaking Wings*  
Second Place: Judy Davies, Gautier, MS *The Night Watchman*  
Third Place: Dr. Philip L. Levin, Biloxi, MS *Christmas Eve in the E.R.*  
HM: Karen McAferty Morris, Pensacola, FL *The 24-Hour Poetry Reading Marathon, 2-3 a.m. Shift*

Category 4 – Gulf Coast Author's Award (Judge: Philip L. Levin)  
First Place: Judy Davies, Gautier, MS *Finding Closure*  
Second Place: Brenda B. Finnegan, Ocean Springs, MS *A Mississippi Girl Remembers*  
Third Place: Nick Sweet, Shepherd, TX *Varrone*  
HM1: Jeanne S. Kelly, Madison, MS *Baby Steps: Bridging the Racial Divide*  
HM2: Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX *The Eeyore Principle*  
HM3: Beth Z. Staas, LaGrange Park, IL *Playing on the Team*

Category 5 – Burnham Drugs Award (Judge: Ann Carolyn Cates)  
First Place: Linda W. Owen, Brandon MS *Adieu*  
Second Place: Jeanne S. Kelly, Madison, MS *Creativity's Curse*  
Third Place: Daniel B. Pickett, Madison, MS *Harvest*  
HM1: Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL *Star Quality*  
HM2: Dena Gorrell, Edmond, OK *Our Artistic, Playful Ghost*  
HM3: Judy Davies, Gautier, MS *The Old Farm*

Category 6 – Ruby L. Dennis Memorial Award (Judge: Patricia Butkovich)  
First Place: Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX *Along the Ridge Trail*  
Second Place: Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR *I'll give you a call*  
Third Place: Linda W. Owen, Brandon, MS *The Best Medicine*  
HM1: Dr. Emory D. Jones, Iuka, MS *Spring Mourning*
Category 7 – Mississippi Poetry Society-South Branch Award (Judge: Ann Carolyn Cates)
First Place: Brenda B. Finnegan, Ocean Springs, MS  *Natural Wonder*
Second Place: Mary Lee Terry, Ocean Springs, MS  *My Friend's House*
Third Place: Nancy Cook, St. Paul, MN  *True to Nature*
HM1: Linda W. Owen, Brandon, MS  *A Woodland Invitation*
HM2: Dr. Philip L. Levin, Biloxi, MS  *The Anthropologist*
HM3: Jeanne S. Kelly, Madison, MS  *Discordant Notes*

Category 8 – Fill in the Blanks Award (Judge: Barbara Blanks)
First Place: Doris Jones, Madison, MS  *Words on Words*
Second Place: Dr. Philip L. Levin, Biloxi, MS  *Witch's Brew*
Third Place: Patricia Butkovich, Gautier, MS  *The Ring*
HM1: Karen McAferty Morris, Pensacola, FL  *Compost*
HM2: Elaine McDermott, Gulfport, MS  *Flying with Silver Wings of Dawn*
HM3: Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR  *Sparrows in the mall*

Category 9 – Kathy McCall Memorial Award (Judge: Elaine McDermott)
First Place: Nancy Cook, St. Paul, MN  *Last October*
Second Place: Nick Sweet, Shepherd, TX  *Decent/Descent*
Third Place: Jeanne S. Kelly, Madison, MS  *Leah*
HM1: Karen McAferty Morris, Pensacola, FL  *Noise*
HM2: Dorothy Rogers, Lucedale, MS  *Seasons*

Category 10 – Mississippi Memories Award (Judge: Dierdre Payne)
First Place: Doris Jones, Madison, MS  *Tractor Shed*
Second Place: Dr. Philip L. Levin, Biloxi, MS  *Christine, 1967*
Third Place: Dr. Philip L. Levin, Biloxi, MS  *The Legacy of a House*
HM: Judy Davies, Gautier, MS  *James Earl Jones*

Category 11 – Davies Favorite Form Award (Judge: Judy Davies)
First Place: Dr. Emory D. Jones, Iuka, MS  *Moonstruck*
Second Place: Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX  *Even before cell phones...*
Third Place: Patricia Butkovich, Gautier, MS  *My Bird*
HM1: Dr. Philip L. Levin, Biloxi, MS  *In My Arms She Gently Rests*
HM2: Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL  *I Am What I Am*
HM3: Linda W. Owen, Brandon, MS  *River*

Category 12 – My Friend Award (Judge: Sheila Grieco)
First Place: Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR  *To find a place*
Second Place: Carol D. Meeks, Tulsa, OK  *Friends Forever*
Third Place: Patricia Butkovich, Gautier, MS  *Friendship Quilt*
HM1: Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX  *Wrinkled, Rumpled and Saggy*
HM2: Dr. Philip L. Levin, Biloxi, MS  *Rescued*

Category 13 – Limerick Award (Judge: Joan Crow)
First Place: Elaine McDermott, Gulfport, MS  *Picnics*
Second Place: Brenda B. Finnegan, Ocean Springs, MS  Limerick
Third Place:  Judy Davies, Gautier, MS  Reneé
HM1:  Jeanne S. Kelly, Madison, MS  Bored No More
HM2:  Daniel B. Pickett, Madison, MS  Grandpa's Diet
HM3:  Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR  Truth proof

Category 14 – Garbin Award (Judge: Faith Garbin)
First Place:  Greg Horshok, Ocean Springs, MS  Bed Head
Second Place:  Judy Davies, Gautier, MS  The Toll of Aging
Third Place:  Barbara Blanks, Garland, TX  The incredible beauty of joy
HM1:  Linda W. Owen, Brandon, MS  Love's Puzzle
HM2:  Patricia Butkovich, Gautier, MS  ...weren't we fine...

STUDENT WINNERS:

Youth Awards #1-Grades 1-5 (Judge: Brenda B. Finnegan)
First Place:  Caleb Lawrence, Gr. 5, Presbyterian Day School, Kosciusko, MS  One More Game
Second Place:  Patricia Hoffer, Gr. 4, Central Elementary, Pascagoula, MS  The Day Sets Away
Third Place:  Isabell Gallahue, Gr. 5, Trent Lott Academy, Pascagoula, MS  Dance and Sing
No other entries in this category

Youth Awards #2-Grades 6-12 (Judge: Barbara Moss)
First Place:  Thalia McInnis, Gr. 10, Northeast Lauderdale High, Meridian, MS  Who is she?
Second Place:  Madison Reynolds, Gr. 10, Northeast Lauderdale High, Meridian MS  Nature's Own Way
Third Place:  Seline Decoteau, Gr. 9, Resurrection Catholic High, Pascagoula, MS  Thunderstorm
HM1:  Peyton Allen, Gr. 10, Heritage Academy High, Columbus, MS  Fall
HM2:  Mallory Amos, Gr. 11, Heritage Academy High, Columbus, MS  One
HM3:  Thomas Chain, Gr. 10, Heritage Academy High, Columbus, MS  Summertime

Youth Awards #3-College Undergraduate (Judge: Ken Meyer)
First Place:  Ryan Wilshusen, Messiah College, Mechanicsburg, PA  Master
No other entries in this category