



**POETRY SOCIETY OF INDIANA
44th ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST
2022 WINNERS LIST**

(27 CATEGORIES)

Category 1: PSI LOVE OF POETRY PRIZE

Subject: **Poetry as My Lover** (Form: Any, Line Limit: 40) #Entries: 45

- 1st: Jerri Hardesty (AL): *Date Night With Poetry*
2nd: M. A. Dubbs (IN): *Poetic Paramour*
3rd: John Hinton* (IN): *Unexpected*
HM: Catherine Moran (AR), Paula Sweeney Kowszik* (MA), S. Evan Walters* (IN)

Category 2: GLENNA GLEE: ONE AND ONLY

Subject: **Glee, Joy, Happiness** (Form: Any, Line Limit: None) #Entries: 52

- 1st: Donna Isaac (MN): *Blurred Lines, Moments*
2nd: Gail Denham* (OR): *Lizzie's Small Treasures*
3rd: Nancy Cook (MN): *Awe and Then Some*
HM: S.E. (IN), Dietrich Balsbaugh (IN), Gurupreet K. Khalsa (AL)

Category 3: PAST PRESIDENT AWARD

Subject: **An Ode to Shoes — a Journey Story** (Form: Any, Line Limit: 40) #Entries: 35

- 1st: Linda S.H.S. Eaton* (IN): *An Ode to Shoes*
2nd: W. E. JONES* (IN): *My Faithful Shoes*
3rd: Marlene Million* (IN): *Putting on Thee Shoes*
HM: Joe Ottinger* (IN), John Hinton* (IN), Tanya R. Whitney (LA)

Category 4: PREMIER POETS PRIZE

Subject: **Historical Figure or Event** (Form: Limerick, Line Limit: Per form) #Entries: 28

- 1st: Dietrich Balsbaugh (IN): *The Battle of Agincourt*
2nd: Kim Barney (UT): *Ben Franklin, while visiting Dublin (. . .)*
3rd: Paula Morgan* (IN): *Peter Paul Rubens, quite wise (. . .)*
HM: Beverly Stanislawski* (IN), Tamara DiBartola (PA)

Category 5: LIFE WORTH REMEMBERING AWARD

Subject: **Winnowing Memoir** (Form: Any, Line Limit: 40) #Entries: 34

- 1st: Trina Lee (OK): *Gleaners*
2nd: Terry Jude Miller (TX): *the whole story*
3rd: Beth Staas (IL): *One More Time*
HM: Pat Barnes (MI), Paul Buchheit (IL), Dan Fitzgerald (IL)

Category 6: PSI MEMORIAL AWARD

Honoring PSI members who died the previous year.

Subject: **Gain through Loss** (Form: Any, Line Limit: 40) #Entries: 34

- 1st: Nancy Simmonds* (IN): *Insurance*
2nd: S. Evan Walters* (IN): *My Iron Will*
3rd: Joe Ottinger* (IN): *Life Trust*
HM: Mary A. Couch* (IN)

*Indicates a PSI member

Category 7: HOOSIER HERITAGE AWARD

Subject: **The People, Places, History, and/or Culture of Indiana** (Form: Any, Line Limit: 60)

#Entries: 22

- 1st: James Green* (IN): *Why I Prefer Mornings to Walk in the Woods*
2nd: Mary A. Couch* (IN): *Wandering Indiana Trails*
3rd: Kristina Walls Kelly (IN): *City Story*
HM: Nancy Cook (MN), Justine Vandenberg* (IN), Mike Nierste* (IN)

Category 8: URN YOUR PRIZE

Subject: **Any** (Form: Spoon River, Line Limit: None) #Entries: 25

- 1st: Grace Diane Jessen (UT): *William White*
2nd: Mary A. Couch* (IN): *Martha Davenport -- Librarian 1888-1958*
3rd: Jerri Hardesty (AL): *Angus Greely*
HM: Nick Sweet (TX), Donna Isaac (MN), Joe Ottinger* (IN)

Category 9: BARBARA ANN AWARD

Subject: **Jesus never said we had to like anyone** (Form: Any, Line Limit: 5 exactly (none blank))

#Entries: 28

- 1st: Gail Denham* (OR): *Love 'Em, But I Like 'Em?*
2nd: Kim Barney (UT): *Sorry Sibling*
3rd: Terry Jude Miller (TX): *Sister Adelaide's Child Psychology for Boys*
HM: Linda S.H.S. Eaton* (IN), Christian Shute (WY), Mary Ann Bozenski (MI)

Category 10: NORTHEAST INDIANA POETS AWARD

Subject: **Charisma** (Form: Any, Line Limit: 40) #Entries: 27

- 1st: Terry Jude Miller (TX): *the millionaire*
2nd: Pat Barnes (MI): *Hag's Villanelle*
3rd: Alys Caviness-Gober* (IN): *Acrostic Love Story*
HM: Beth Staas (IL), Tamara DiBartola (PA), Mona Mehas* (IN)

Category 11: NOBLE POETS AWARD

Subject: **Unanswered Questions** (Form: Any, Line Limit: 45) #Entries: 43

- 1st: Walter Biskupski (IN): *Where is that Love, Billie?*
2nd: James Green* (IN): *Of Theory*
3rd: Pat Barnes (MI): *just like everybody else*
HM: Dan Fitzgerald (IL), John Hinton* (IN), Barbara J. Funke* (UT)

Category 12: OBERLIN PRIZE

In memory of Prue Oberlin

Subject: **Writing, education, mentoring** (Form: Sonnet, Line Limit: Per form) #Entries: 18

- 1st: Catherine Moran (AR): *Watching the writings that we leave*
2nd: Alys Caviness-Gober* (IN): *A Teacher's Day (aka, Sonnet 18a)*
3rd: Beth Staas (IL): *Fragments*
HM: Pat Barnes (MI), James Green* (IN)

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Category 13: MILLION AWARD

Subject: **Promise Kept** (Form: Any, Line Limit: 40) #Entries: 33

- 1st: Mark Hudson (IL): *Students*
2nd: Emory D. Jones* (MS): *Perfect Day*
3rd: Mary A. Couch* (IN): *Promise to a Friend*
HM: Z. Rose* (IN), Tamara DiBartola (PA), Beverly Stanislawski* (IN)

Category 14: THE VIOLA AWARD

Subject: **Plant Life (any, eg: trees, flowers, grass, vegetables, etc)** (Form: Rhymed, Line Limit: 40)
#Entries: 37

- 1st: W. E. JONES* (IN): *Autumn Scenes*
2nd: Jerri Hardesty (AL): *Innate*
3rd: Dennis L. White* (MI): *Vegetable Garden*
HM: John W. Crawford (AR), Mary A. Couch* (IN), Kim Barney (UT)

Category 15: BABBLING BROOK AWARD

Subject: **Any** (Form: Cinquain, Line Limit: Per form) #Entries: 32

- 1st: Nancy Cook (MN): *storm surge*
2nd: Robert V. Davis (UT): *Crickets (. . .)*
3rd: Jerri Hardesty (AL): *Mornings*
HM: Dennis L. White* (MI), Alys Caviness-Gober* (IN), Christian Shute (WY)

Category 16: ELEANOR CRANMER & CAROLINE AWARD

Subject: **Journey** (Form: Any, Line Limit: 49) #Entries: 50

- 1st: Mary A. Couch* (IN): *Night On a Cattle Drive*
2nd: Paul Buchheit (IL): *Odyssey*
3rd: Trina Lee (OK): *Last Trip*
HM: Teresa Pruitt* (IN), G. Spaulding Kohr (IN), Dennis L. White* (MI)

Category 17: GUT PUNCH

Subject: **A poem that hits the emotions — Hard!** (Form: Free Verse, Line Limit: 15) #Entries: 41

- 1st: Catherine Moran (AR): *trying to cover all the vacant spaces*
2nd: Pat Barnes (MI): *Drat*
3rd: Z. Rose* (IN): *Built up Bottle works*
HM: Justine Vandenberg* (IN), Jerri Hardesty (AL), MM Murphy (IN)

Category 18: GRACE POTTER HEARKINS AWARD

Subject: **The Pattern** (Form: Any, Line Limit: 40) #Entries: 36

- 1st: Amy Wray Irish (CO): *Song of the Subway*
2nd: Pat Barnes (MI): *Gladiolus Ghazal*
3rd: W. E. JONES* (IN): *The Lesson*
HM: Dan Fitzgerald (IL), Barbara J. Funke* (UT), Marlene Million* (IN)

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Category 19: LINDA BANNON MEMORIAL

Subject: **Prayer or Blessing** (Form: Any, Line Limit: None) #Entries: 36

- 1st: Victor Klimoski (MN): *A Prayer For Writers*
2nd: Nick Sweet (TX): *The Preacher and the Paperboy*
3rd: Caroline A. Dewey* (IN): *In Nature, We See a Leaf Drop*
HM: Rachel Wright* (IN), Linda S.H.S. Eaton* (IN), Jerri Hardesty (AL)

Category 20: DEBRA SUE LYNN AWARD

Subject: **Death & the Hereafter, Reincarnation, The Sea; or Silence** (Form: Villanelle, Trijan Refrain, Kyrielle, Sonnet, or Iambic Heptameter Sonnet, Line Limit: 40 for Kyrielle; Per form for all others) #Entries: 18

- 1st: Grace Diane Jessen (UT): *Reflection in Red*
2nd: Jerri Hardesty (AL): *Living on the Edge*
3rd: Catherine Moran (AR): *Holding on to all the silent times*
HM: Beverly Stanislawski* (IN), Mary A. Couch* (IN), Maureen Brustkern* (IN)

Category 21: EKPHRASTIGANZA!

Subject: **Any** (Form: Ekphrastic, Line Limit: None) #Entries: 33
Must include a picture of the artwork that inspired the poem

- 1st: Victor Klimoski (MN): *Closing A Country Church*
2nd: Annette Gagliardi (MN): *Circular Living*
3rd: Lorraine Jeffery* (UT): *Sometimes*
HM: S. Evan Walters* (IN), Barbara J. Funke* (UT), Paula Morgan* (IN)

Category 22: THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX!

Subject: **About a city or state outside of Indiana but adjacent to Indiana** (Form: Rictameter, Line Limit: Per Form) #Entries: 18

- 1st: Amy Wray Irish (CO): *Night Train (. . .)*
2nd: Nancy Simmonds* (IN): *Mittened*
3rd: Paula Sweeney Kowszik* (MA): *Oh Ohio*
HM: Paul Buchheit (IL), Beverly Stanislawski* (IN), George Wylie* (MI)

Category 23: FAMILY AWARD

Subject: **Family** (Form: Any, Line Limit: 40) #Entries: 44

- 1st: Paula Morgan* (IN): *Awaiting the Quarter Turn*
2nd: Pat Barnes (MI): *Rooted*
3rd: Dan Fitzgerald (IL): *Kitchen Song For Irene*
HM: John Hinton* (IN), M. Beth Symons (IN), Emory D. Jones* (MS)

Category 24: TRADITIONAL SONNET (ENGLISH)

Subject: **Life in Crisis** (Form: English Sonnet, Line Limit: Per form) #Entries: 17

- 1st: Catherine Moran (AR): *A choice of weapons*
2nd: Beverly Stanislawski* (IN): *Sea Battle*
3rd: Gurupreet K. Khalsa (AL): *Earth's Riders, Unmoored*
HM: Kim Barney (UT), Grace Diane Jessen (UT), Jerri Hardesty (AL)

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Category 25: SPEAK OUT

Subject: **Protest** (Form: Any, Line Limit: 44) #Entries: 45

1st: Amy Wray Irish (CO): *In Black and White*

2nd: Mary A. Couch* (IN): *My Voice, A Cry within the Storm*

3rd: Sandra McGarry (CO): *I Cage Too Much*

HM: Walter Biskupski (IN), Dan Fitzgerald (IL), Gurupreet K. Khalsa (AL)

Category 26: WIN PSI MEMBERSHIP

Open only to non-member Indiana residents

Subject: **Any** (Form: Any, Line Limit: 40) #Entries: 8

1st: Travis Allen King (IN): *Friends*

2nd: S.E. (IN): *The Weight of a Thing*

3rd: M. A. Dubbs (IN): *A Forager's Haiku in Seasons*

HM: Walter Biskupski (IN), Kristina Walls Kelly (IN), Marydell Forbes (IN)

Category 27: WILD CARD AWARD

Subject: **Any** (Form: Any, Line Limit: None) #Entries: 44

1st: Randy K. Schwartz (MI): *Fragments from a Time Capsule*

2nd: Paula Morgan* (IN): *Maypole Dance*

3rd: Emory D. Jones* (MS): *Art Appreciation-A Golden Shovel Poem*

HM: James Green* (IN), Don Adams* (IN), Nancy Simmonds* (IN)

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WINNERS!

AND MANY THANKS TO ALL ENTRANTS, SPONSORS, AND JUDGES FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR 44th ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST!

Participation:

- 83 poets entered 883 poems in 27 categories.
- 36 of the contestants were members of PSI (approx. one half of our membership).
- Entries came from 20 states and 1 Canadian province.
- Eight categories had at least 40 entries.
- The *Glenna Glee: One and Only* category had the most entries with 52.

Placings:

- 64 contestants had at least one placing at any level.
- 28 of those were PSI members.
- 46 contestants had at least one placing of 1st, 2nd, or 3rd.
- 19 of those were PSI members.

Notable Individual Achievements:

- Mary A. Couch*: 8 placings, including 1 First Place and 4 others in the Top 3
- Jerri Hardesty: 8 placings, including 1 First Place and 4 others in the Top 3
- Pat Barnes: 7 placings, including 4 Second Places and a Third Place
- Catherine Moran: 3 First Places, plus a Third Place and an Honorable Mention
- Amy Wray Irish: 3 First Places

Prizes:

- Prize money totaled \$1879.80, plus one free one-year membership in PSI (\$18 value).
- PSI members earned prize money totaling \$695.20.

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SOME COMMENTS FROM THE JUDGES (# indicates the category judged):

- #1: This was HARD. They're all good and deserve recognition.
- #2: Several wonderful poems in this group. Winning choices often came down to fine poetry points.
To all the poets: Thank you for sharing your creative wonders.
- #4: Key elements of a good limerick include strong meter and humor, even bawdiness. The winner in this category definitely meets that definition!
- #6: Always a difficult task, judging a poetry contest reminds me of the place where aesthetics and personal taste intersect. While personal taste cannot be removed totally, I tried as earnestly as possible to judge according to aesthetic quality. After reading the set of poems several times, I selected a "top ten" list. Then, I winnowed that list down to four that, in my estimate, reflected adherence to the stated subject and showed artistic merit superior to the others.
- #7: My choices were guided by the quality of the poem, as well as my love of nature. The author didn't need to say "Mounds" for me to know it was pure Indiana. Soldiers and Sailors Monument is also the defining feature in City Story.
- #8: Good set of Spoon Rivers. Also read some good poems that could not be called Spoon Rivers.
- #9: If a poem does not follow rules I don't even read it. Numbers of lines, etc. There was only a hair's difference between 1st, 2nd, & 3rd.
- #11: We enjoyed judging these as a team in our poetry club. It was a reminder that along with appreciation for excellent technique, there is a certain amount of subjective preference each judge has for certain poetic qualities and subjects. We are in agreement that these 6 winners are worthy of recognition. We also want to encourage some of the poets who did not win. Maybe your poem did not speak to the group as a whole, but spoke to one of us. Keep working and polishing. Thank you to all who chose to enter!
- #12: Enjambment serves the winning poem well by accelerating the reading of it and camouflaging its hard end rhymes – illustrating the vagaries of Time's erasing hand.
- #13: I enjoyed reading poems, which touched my heart!
- #14: It was good to see how many poets love the plant life all around us and there were so many different views and thoughts. I can also see that both rhyming and meter have become somewhat *passee'* since one or the other (or sometimes both) were rather missing from some entries. Beautiful, flowing, thoughtful, and well done free verse is certainly important and enjoyed, but I do hope the world of poetry doesn't completely forget meter and rhyme.
- #15: Reminder: syllable count should be precise 2, 4, 6, 8, 2. A Cinquain is a single thought or story description in poetry form. The poem should flow or be lyrical.
- #18: I was thrilled with the wide variety of patterns represented by this group of poets. I admit I sincerely wished I had more opportunities to list Honorable Mentions. Well done poets!
- #19: 1st Place: Such a beautiful way to encourage lyricists, poets and novelists. Intellectually stimulating, well done. 2nd Place: Praise to the author for this inspiring message. 3rd Place: Beautiful vision. Hope lives.
- #21: We really enjoyed the creative efforts put forth. We love to be surprised after reading the poem to see what piece of artwork inspired it.
- #22: A fine collection of Rictameters, most were true to form, all engaged this judge who has respect for all the entries, but alas, the top poems were the ones that impressed me the

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most, that I thought best satisfied the category theme and subject. Thanks to all that entered this category.

#24: I enjoyed reading the entries. Unfortunately, a number of them did not follow the strict iambic pentameter rhythmic pattern.

#25: It was very difficult to pick winners in this group—the poems covered many areas and were outstanding.

Note: The judge this year for any given category may not be the same in future years.

WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO ALL ENTRIES FOR THE 45TH ANNUAL CONTEST IN 2023!

CHUCK KELLUM
PSI CONTEST DIRECTOR

Ink to Paper, Volume 7, will be available through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and other online booksellers. This attractive annual anthology published by Poetry Society of Indiana (PSI) is filled with timeless creative poetry and associated artwork. Poetry Society of Indiana has exclusive first publishing rights to all PSI-hosted poetry contests' winning poems, including the PSI Annual Poetry Contest winning poems, which may be included in PSI's annual anthology. Publishing rights revert to the poet after the anthology is published each year.

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