



ILLINOIS STATE POETRY SOCIETY

# POETRY CONTEST

27th ANNUAL CONTEST • 2020 • [www.illinoispoets.org](http://www.illinoispoets.org)

## 1. Free Verse Award

Sponsored by ISPS

- SUBJECT: Any
- FORM: Free Verse
- PRIZES: \$50, \$30, \$15

## 2. Formal Verse Award

Sponsored by ISPS

- SUBJECT: Any
- FORM: Any set form: (Identify the form at the top of the page)
- PRIZES: \$50, \$30, \$15

## 3. Traditional Haiku (5-7-5) Award

Sponsored by ISPS

- SUBJECT: Any
- FORM: Traditional 5-7-5 haiku
- PRIZES: \$50, \$30, \$15

## 4. Modern Haiku Award

Sponsored by ISPS

- SUBJECT: Any
- FORM: Modern haiku
- PRIZES: \$50, \$30, \$15

## 5. ISPS Board Award

Sponsored by ISPS Board of Directors

- SUBJECT: Home
- FORM: Any
- PRIZES: \$50, \$30, \$15

## 6. Fire & Police First Responders

Sponsored by Judith Tullis in honor of Chief Arthur A. Tullis & Lieutenant Steven A. Tullis

- SUBJECT: Fire & Police First Responders
- FORM: Any
- PRIZES: \$50, \$30, \$20

## 7. Wilda Morris Appreciation Award

Sponsored by Jim Lambert in honor of Wilda Morris for her work in ISPS and NFSPS

- SUBJECT: Humor
- FORM: Rhyming
- PRIZES: \$50, \$30, \$20
- LINE LIMIT: 24

## 8. Swords and Ploughshares Award

Sponsored by Jo Balistreri, Wilda Morris and Michael Escoubas in honor of first responders in our COVID-19 crisis

- SUBJECT: Peace and justice

- FORM: Any
- PRIZES: \$50, \$25, \$15

## 9. Love and Marriage Award

Sponsored by Idella Edwards in honor of the 60th wedding anniversary of Jack and Idella Edwards, 1960-2020

- SUBJECT: Love and Marriage
- FORM: Rhyming
- PRIZES: \$30, \$20, \$10

## 10. Nature Award

Sponsored by Donna Pucciani in memory of Glenna Holloway

- SUBJECT: Nature
- FORM: Free Verse
- PRIZES: \$25, \$20, \$10

## 11. Southern Chapter Award

Sponsored by ISPS Southern Chapter, Carbondale

- SUBJECT: Any
- FORM: Any
- PRIZES: \$25, \$20, \$10

## 12. Highland Park Poetry Award

Sponsored by Highland Park Poetry

- SUBJECT: Any
- FORM: Huitain, 8 lines, ababbcbc rhyme, 8 to 10 syllables per line
- PRIZES: \$25, \$20, \$10

## 13. Down Home Cinquain Award

Sponsored by Gail Denham in memory of her mother, Thelma Huovinen Bottemiller

- SUBJECT: Home Life
- FORM: Cinquain (2, 4, 6, 8, 2 syllables; rhyme optional)
- LINE LIMIT: 5 lines
- PRIZES: \$25, \$15, \$10

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. **Eligibility.** Contest is open to anyone.
2. **Original work and unpublished.** Not in print or published electronically.
3. **Previous Awards.** Poems which have won monetary awards are ineligible.
4. **Poem format**
  - In English, typed or computer-

generated, 12 or 14 point; no fancy fonts or illustrations.

- 40-line limit, unless specified.
- One single-spaced poem per page, 8.5" x 11" white paper.

## 5. Titles.

Except haiku, title all poems.

## 6. Awards.

No poet can win two awards in the same category.

## 7. Submit two copies of each poem:

**Originals.** In the upper left-hand corner include: Number and name of contest; your name, address, e-mail, and phone number; the word "MEMBER" if you have current membership in ISPS.

**Duplicates.** In the upper left-hand corner include ONLY number and name of contest.

**Two Stacks.** Separate originals from duplicates and stack in numerical order with originals on top.

## Entry Fees

- **ISPS Members:** \$8 for up to 8 poems, \$1 each additional poem.
- **NON-ISPS MEMBERS,** \$10, up to 8 poems, \$1 each additional poem.

## SUBMISSION PERIOD

Submissions must be postmarked:  
**September 1 to October 31, 2020**

**Mail submissions with check** payable to Illinois State Poetry Society to:

ISPS Contest % Jim Lambert  
300 Twin Lakes Road  
Carterville, IL 62918

For the winners' list by mail, include a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your submission.

## JOIN US or VISIT US...

For information on how to join ISPS or to see this year's list of 1st, 2nd, 3rd and three honorable mention awards in each category, visit our website:

[www.illinoispoets.org](http://www.illinoispoets.org)