

## Fall 2021 Poetry Competition Results

**Category 1. Free Verse Award, sponsored by North Branch. Subject: open. Line limit: 40. Judge: Steve Robertson**

**Category 2. Humor Award, sponsored by North Branch. Form: open. Subject: open. Line limit: 24. Judge: Ann Carolyn Cates**

**Category 3. Scentry Award, sponsored by Central Branch. Form: open. Subject: Write a poem that reflects some aspects(s) of both science and poetry. Line limit: 20. Judge: Doris Jones**

**Category 4. "Guess Poem" Award, sponsored by Central Branch. Subject: Write a poem from the perspective of a person, or a particular plant or animal, or even an inanimate object or abstract thing. The job of the reader, in addition to enjoying good poetry, is to guess what the person, thing, idea being written about is. Form: open. Line limit: 40. Judge: Jason Ervin.**

**Category 5. Elizabethan Sonnet Award, sponsored by South Branch. Subject: What I Learned During the Pandemic. Line limit: 14. Judge: Robert Harkins**

**Category 6. Free Verse Award, sponsored by South Branch. Subject: Fall Foliage. Line Limit: 24. Judge: Judy Davies**

### Category 1

**1st Place Secrets Mary Beth Magee  
2nd Place Daydream Dweller Linda Owen  
3rd Place Nightmare at Sea Dorothy Rogers  
1 HM Passing Through the 1930s Gail Denham  
2 HM Last Look Doris Jones  
3 HM The Leaf Raker Carey Myers**

#### Judge's comments—Category 1

There were 27 entries and there were essentially three groups. Some were a little contrived and cliché, so they went in the bottom grouping. The second grouping just missed a little something. I didn't feel anything when I read them. That's not to say that they weren't good, but they weren't great.

### Category 2

**1st Place Washing Machine Blues Dorothy Wiman  
2nd Place My Not So Bad Cat Barbara Moss  
3rd Place Boo! Linda Owen  
1 HM A Note to Whoever Finds my Body Michael Shelton  
2 HM Old John Jones Dorothy Rogers  
3 HM Provision Tommy Little**

### Category 3

- 1st Place Chemist vs. Poet            Jeanne Kelly**  
**2nd Place Ode to Okra        Mrs. Ruth Richmond**  
**3rd Place Interludes on the String Theory    Catherine Moran**  
**1HM 7th Grade Science    Ann Carolyn Cates**  
**2HM Shoemaker-Levy 9        Dorothy Rogers**  
**3HM The Poetry of Science        Mary Beth Magee**

#### Judge's comments—Category 3

**If anyone asks, I looked for poems that: took me there and made me want to read more meshed science with other subjects spurred learning, but without being pedantic  
Bonus points for humor, rhyme, and forms well done**

### Category 4

- 1st Place Here we go again    Mark LaFrancis**  
**2nd Place A staged performance        Catherine Moran**  
**3rd Place Quotes from \_\_\_\_\_    Michael Shelton**  
**1 HM ???    Linda Owen**  
**2 HM I'm So Misunderstood    Janice Canerdy**  
**3 HM Message from the grave    Dorothy Rogers**

#### Judge's comments—category 4

**Thanks to everyone who wrote a "guess poem". I hope you enjoyed yourselves. I know I enjoyed reading them! It's always an honor to read someone else's poetry. For most of them, I was able to solve the riddle. I'm not giving the answers though! As always, judging is a fun, rewarding, challenging, educational experience. Different styles and objectives can be hard to compare. And often times, at least for me, little things can cast the scales one way or the other. So, without further ado, here are my picks. I hope you enjoy reading them as much as I did.**

### Category 5

- 1st Place- Sonnet Death        Michael Shelton**  
**2nd Place- Learning from the Virus        Catherine Moran**  
**3rd Place- Pandemic Victim: Isolation and Amputation        Jeanne Kelly**  
**HM "Quandary"    Linda Owen**

### Category 6

- 1st Place Ovation for Fall        Linda Owen**  
**2nd Place Gathered Leaves    Carey Myers**  
**3rd Place Overcome with the blaze of autumn        Catherine Moran**  
**1 HM Scattering Leaves Call        Gail Denham**  
**2 HM Fall's Ball    Jeanne Kelly**  
**3 HM Falling Leaves        Tonya Whitney**

