

The Magnolia Muse



Newsletter of the Mississippi Poetry Society, Inc.

January, 2021, Edition

Greetings Poets and Friends:

I hope everyone had enjoyable holidays and managed to avoid the virus.

The Executive Board met Saturday, via Zoom, to discuss the upcoming Poetry Festival and Contest. Due to the continuation of precautions to avoid spreading the virus it was decided to **cancel** the Poetry Festival on April 16, 17 and 18th of this year.

The Board also voted to extend the deadline for adult poetry contest entries to **March 1, 2021**. (Please note that is not a postmark date, but must be received by that date, so mail your packet early.) No entries received after that date will be accepted. Winners will be posted on the MPS website, www.misspoetry.net on April 17th.

The student contest deadline is February 1, 2021. Dr. Emory Jones, student contest coordinator, reports very few entries received to date. If all members will encourage any students they know to enter, also mention it to any teachers that you know, maybe that will garner a few more entries. A copy of the rules can be found on the website.

CONGRATULATIONS are in order to the following members who reported receiving awards or having their work published. They are:

Barbara Blanks:

I have a new book: "Out of My Mind: Flights of Truth and Fiction." AND, I have a new book for middle grade kids: "World You Look At That!" Both are available from Amazon or directly from me.

Emory Jones:

- "What Color Is the Wind?" published in *The Scarlet Leaf Journal*, January 2021.
- "Rain Regiment" published in *The Scarlet Leaf Journal*, January 2021.
- "Good God" published in *The Scarlet Leaf Journal*, January 2021.
- "Haiku Sequence" published in *The Scarlet Leaf Journal*, January 2021.
- "Sacred Music" published in *The Scarlet Leaf Journal*, January 2021.
- "Wild Horses" was published in *WyoPoets News* of January 2001.
- "Winter Sequence" to be published in *Pasques Petals 2021 Spring Issue*.
- "Dew Dancing" was published in *Halcyon Days* 2020, issue 19.
- "What I Have Learned" won 2nd Honorable Mention in the December 2020 Monthly Contest of the Poets Roundtable of Arkansas.
- "Wild Horses" was published in *WyoPoets News* January 2021 Issue.
- "Night Dance" was published in *The Avocet: A Journal of Nature Poetry* Winter 2021 issue.
- "Divine Sculpture" won the January 2021 Monthly Contest of the Arizona State Poetry Society and will be published in *Sandcutters* in early 2022.
- "Winter Sequence" will be published in the Spring 2021 edition of *Pasques Petals*.

Janice Canerdy:

- (1) Illinois State Poetry Society Annual Contest, 2nd place in formal poetry, publication in anthology pending
- (2) *Poetry Quarterly* (a Prolific Press publication), one poem, publication, spring '21
- (3) *PS: It's Poetry* (anthology by Arczis Web Technologies, 2020), two poems
- (4) *Society of Classical Poets* website, three poems, January 12, 2021

Philip L. Levin:

2 articles in *Gulf Coast Woman* and 1 in *Parents and Kids*

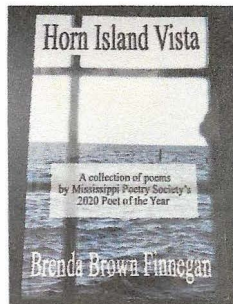
Gail Denham:

Poems published on BCPA on line; two poems in Poetic Voices; "New Year Arrives" Wyoming Poets member poetry; two poems in Distilled Lives, Vol. 5 (printed in book); poem in ISPS newsletter; several poems in Quill & Parchment on line; Highland Park used my "Juniper" poem with my picture of same; "Right Side Down" published in Well Versed; won prizes in Florida annual contest; Prize in Tennessee Poetry Contest for "Barnyard Opera"; poems in Tennessee Voices Anthology; prize in Indiana Poetry, "Walking in Mud"; poems in Pennessence (and missing Ann Gasser a lot, although thankful Colleen is taking over the publication); prize with Lone Star. That's back to October.

Brenda Finnegan:

Although I haven't published anything lately, I have been enjoying attending the Zoom Poemulate programs presented by Marj Hahn (free) every second Monday! In each session, she presents a poem and we are supposed to emulate the poem. It's interesting. Last week, she presented a poem "Praise Song for the Day" by Elizabeth Alexander which was read at Barak O'Bama's inaugural; it would equally be timely for now. However, I hear that President Elect Joe Biden has chosen a 22 year old poet to read at his. (No poet read at Donald Trump's inauguration). Can't wait to hear that one!

Brenda is our Poet of the Year. MPS published her book, *Horn Island Vista*. Since our festivals last year and this year have been canceled, we haven't been able to have a book signing for her, but she does have some copies for sale. They are \$13 (\$10 for the book and \$3 postage) Make checks payable to MPS. Her address is: Brenda Finnegan, 5713 Belle Fontaine Dr., Ocean Springs, MS 39564.



Happy Writing,

Patty Butkovich
MPS President

Let your own discretion be your tutor: suit the action to the word, the word to the action.

Shakespeare - Hamlet, Act III, Sc. 2