



ILLINOIS STATE POETRY SOCIETY

# POETRY CONTEST

31st ANNUAL ISPS POETRY CONTEST • 2024 • [www.illinoispoets.org](http://www.illinoispoets.org)

## 1. Holloway Free Verse Award

Sponsored by Donna Pucciani in memory of Glenna Holloway.

- SUBJECT: Water FORM: Free Verse
- PRIZES: \$100, \$60, \$30

## 2. Smile Award

Sponsored by Ida Kotyuk

- SUBJECT: Smile FORM: Any
- PRIZES: \$75, \$50, \$25

## 3. Any Subject & Form Award

Sponsored by Marjorie Rissman.

- SUBJECT: Any FORM: Any
- PRIZES: \$60, \$40, \$20

## 4. Wilda Morris Award

Sponsored by Bakul Banerjee In honor of Wilda Morris.

- SUBJECT: Sustainability FORM: Any
- PRIZES: \$60, \$40, \$20

## 5. Dreams Award

Sponsored by Susan T. Moss

- SUBJECT: Dreams
- FORM: Free Verse
- PRIZES: \$50, \$30, \$20

## 6. ISPS Free Verse Award

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

## 7. ISPS Formal Verse Award

- SUBJECT: Any
- FORM: Any set form (Identify the form, upper left corner of submission)
- PRIZES: \$50, \$30, \$15

## 8. ISPS Traditional Haiku Award

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

## 9. ISPS Modern Haiku Award

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

## 10. Alan Harris Award

Sponsored by Mary Beth Bretzlauf in honor of ISPS webmaster and board member Alan Harris.

- SUBJECT: Technology
- FORM: Any LINES: Limit 30
- PRIZES: \$50, \$25, \$15

## 11. Sheila Kirscher Award

Sponsored by Mary Beth Bretzlauf in honor of ISPS board member Sheila Kirscher

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

## 12. Triolet Award

Sponsored by Highland Park Poetry

- SUBJECT: Any FORM: Triolet
- [writersdigest.com/personal-updates/triolet-an-easy-way-to-write-8-lines-of-poetry](http://writersdigest.com/personal-updates/triolet-an-easy-way-to-write-8-lines-of-poetry)
- PRIZES: \$50, \$20, \$10

Winners may be eligible for publication by HPP. Contact [jennifer@highlandparkpoetry.org](mailto:jennifer@highlandparkpoetry.org)

## 13. Nair Award

Sponsored by Lakshmy Nair

- SUBJECT: Any FORM: Any
- PRIZES: \$30, \$20, \$10

## 14. Ekphrastic Poetry Award

Sponsored by Lennart Lundh

- SUBJECT: Any (Must include citation for source image)
- FORM: Any
- PRIZES: \$25, \$20, \$10

## 15. Wombat Award

Sponsored by Gail Denham in memory of Jane West of the Wombat Writers Group.

- SUBJECT: Humor, Make Me Laugh
- FORM: Free Verse, 30-line limit
- PRIZES: \$25, \$20, \$10

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. **Eligibility.** Contest is open to anyone.
2. **Original, unpublished work.** Not in print or published electronically.
3. **Previous awards.** Poems which have won monetary awards are not eligible.
4. **Poem format**
  - In English, typed/computer-generated, 12 or 14 point.
  - No fancy fonts or illustrations.
  - 40-line limit, unless specified. Title and one following blank line are not included in the line count. All other blank lines are included in the count.
  - One single-spaced poem per page.

## 5. Submission Limits

- Limit of one submission per contest category.
- No poem may be submitted in more than one category.

## 6. Titles.

Except haiku, title all poems.

## 7. Submit two copies of each poem.

- **Originals.** In the upper left-hand corner include: Number and name of category; 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 category.

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

## 8. Entry Fees (one poem per category)

- **ISPS Members.** \$10 flat fee includes an entry in any or all categories.
- **NON-MEMBERS.** \$20 flat fee, includes an entry in any or all categories.

## SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Submissions must be postmarked:

**August 1 to October 31, 2024**

## MAILING

Mail submissions with a check payable to Illinois State Poetry Society, to:

ISPS c/o Mary Beth Bretzlauf  
426 Park Avenue  
Highland Park IL 60035

## WINNERS' LIST

List of all contest winners will be posted on our website: [www.illinoispoets.org](http://www.illinoispoets.org) and emailed to the membership via William Shakespeare. For a mailed copy, include a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your submission.

## QUESTIONS?

Contact the contest chair:

**Mary Beth Bretzlauf**  
[ISPS.manningham@gmail.com](mailto:ISPS.manningham@gmail.com)