

# MSPS Winter Contest Rules and Guidelines

## Deadline:

**Postmarked February 20, 2025**

## Format:

Submit two copies of each entry. Include the category number and category name in the upper left-hand corner of both copies. In the upper right-hand corner of one copy, write the poet's name and address. If you are a member, add "Missouri State Poetry Society" below your address; if you are not, write "Non-member." Please note that there are special rules for student submissions, available under the MSPS Youth Contest rules on the website.

## Limits:

- Poems must be 40 or fewer lines. They may be previously published if the poet retains the rights to the poem. Poets may enter each category as many times as they wish. No poems will be returned.
- Poems that have won an MSPS contest in the past may not be resubmitted for contest consideration.

## Categories:

1. Rhymed verse or blank verse (unrhymed iambic pentameter)
2. Free verse
3. Humorous verse
4. Any form, seasonal subject
5. **MEMBERS ONLY:** Poet's Choice: Any form (including open-field, shaped, or concrete poetry), any subject.

## Fees for Categories 1-4:

- Non-members pay \$2.00 per poem. Members pay \$1.00 per poem.
- Fees for Category 5 (Members only) \$2.00 per poem.
- Make money order or check payable to MSPS and mail to:  
Anna Roberts Wells  
10632 St. Andrews Court  
Festus, MO 63028
- Include a SASE or your e-mail address on an index card for a list of the winners.

**Prizes:** \$25, \$15, \$10, and three honorable mentions in each category.

## Membership:

If you are not a member of one of our local chapters but wish to join the Missouri State Poetry Society, you may pay the \$14 annual member-at-large fee to qualify for the reduced contest entry fees available to members. See [Members-at-Large](http://mostatepoetry.com/mal.html) (<http://mostatepoetry.com/mal.html>).