Harriss Poetry Prize and National Chapbook Competition

CITYLIT PROJECT announces the Sixth Annual Harriss Poetry Prize (chapbook). Judge: Erica Dawson. The prize is named in honor of Clarinda Harriss, eminent Maryland poet, publisher, and professor of English at Towson University. Send $15 entry fee and manuscript of 25-30 pages of poetry with table of contents, acknowledgments, and two coversheets (one with title only) to Harriss Poetry Prize, c/o CityLit Project, 120 S. Curley Street, Baltimore, MD 21224. All submissions must be postmarked before December 1.

A NATIONAL PRIZE Winner receives publication by CityLit Press, $500, and 50 copies. Publication includes professional design, wholesale availability through Ingram and Baker & Taylor, and on-line retail pages at Amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com, and other sources. Complete guidelines at www.citylitproject.org.

Submission Guidelines

1. This chapbook competition is open to any poet who has not had a full-length book of poetry published by a professional press (previous chapbook publications are okay). CityLit Project staff, interns, board members, and their immediate family are ineligible.

2. Send one (1) copy of a single manuscript, one submission per poet. Manuscripts must be typed and available in electronic format. Submit no fewer than twenty-five (25) and no more than thirty (30) pages of poetry. All poems must be original (translations are not accepted).

3. Manuscripts must be unbound. Use binder clips or paper clips (no staples).

4. Include on separate pages
   a. A cover sheet listing poet’s name, mailing address, contact telephone number, email address (important for acknowledging receipt and notifications), and collection title. Author’s name should not appear on any pages within the manuscript.
   b. Second cover sheet with collection title only (forwarded to final judge).
   c. List of acknowledgments of previously published poems (if applicable).
   d. Brief one paragraph brief bio not to exceed 150 words.

5. Manuscripts will not be returned; after the winner has been selected, all other manuscripts will be recycled. Please do not send your only copy.

6. Simultaneous submission to other awards should be noted. Immediate notice upon winning an award is required.

7. Entry Fee: $15 (made payable to CityLit Project) along with submission to:

   Harriss Poetry Prize
   c/o CityLit Project
   120 S. Curley Street
   Baltimore, MD 21224
FINALIST MANUSCRIPTS WILL BE JUDGED ANONYMOUSLY.

Postmark Deadline: October 1 (annually).

Notification: Winner will be notified in late winter 2015 with the winning chapbook published in that spring.

Prize Winner: The winner of the Harriss Poetry Prize receives $500, publication by CityLit Press, and 50 copies of the winning chapbook.

Prize Honoree: Clarinda Harriss

Clarinda Harriss teaches poetry, poetic structure, and editing, and, for decades, has been the faculty adviser to Grub Street, Towson University’s literary magazine, which has recently won both Gold and Silver Awards from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. Harriss chaired the Towson University English Department for a decade before stepping down to concentrate fully on writing and teaching. Harriss, educated at Johns Hopkins University and Goucher College, is a widely published, award-winning poet (her most recent collections are Dirty Blue Voice and Mortmain, both published by Half Moon Editions) and, off campus, serves as editor/director of BrickHouse Books, Inc., Maryland’s oldest literary press.

Clarinda’s poems as well as her essays and reviews appear frequently in magazines and newspapers both locally and internationally. She is also the co-author of two academic texts: Forms of Verse: British and American, and Crofts’ Classics’ edition of The Pearl, a translation using the complicated original verse form, of a book-length Medieval poem. One of her main research interests is writing by prison inmates.

2014 Winner: Danuta E. Kosk-Kosicka (Catonsville, MD), Oblige the Light
Judge: Michael Salcman

2013 Winner: Rebekah Remington (Catonsville, MD), Asphalt
Judge: Marie Howe

2012 Winner: Katherine Bogden (Brooklyn, NY), Every Bit of It
Judge: Tom Lux

2011 Winner: Bruce Sager (Westminster, MD), Famous
Judge: Dick Allen

2010 Winner: Laura Shovan (Ellicott City, MD), Mountain, Log, Salt, and Stone
Judge: Michael Salcman

Prize Sponsor: CityLit Project

CityLit Project has been nurturing the literary arts in Baltimore, around the region, and across the state of Maryland for ten years. The Harriss Poetry Prize, however, is a national competition open to poets across the country and aboard.