

**PSM Peninsula Poets Contest Edition Call for Submissions, general guidelines:**  
**READ CAREFULLY AND THOROUGHLY AS MANY UPDATES ARE INCLUDED!**

- Call for Submissions opens June 1, 2023. **Poems AND payment must be received by August 1, 2023 - no exceptions.** Checks must be postmarked no later than July 24. Sooner is highly advised. Your submission includes both your poem(s) and payment!
- Though working on it, we do **not yet** have any electronic form of payment available. Please visit the PSM website for updates.
- \*NOTE: new email this year! [psmppcontest@gmail.com](mailto:psmppcontest@gmail.com)
- Previously published poems will not be accepted, including on any social media. Simultaneous submissions not accepted.
- Indicate in your submission exactly how you wish your name to appear in the publication if you win.
- Limits: While you may submit to any or all categories (up to ten separate poems, total submission), each poem may only be entered in one category. No single poem may be submitted to more than one category: one poem per category.
- Line limits: Category 2 has a line limit of 14 lines. Other categories have no line limit.
- Page limits: A page length limit of one page per poem is preferred, but poems may extend a bit beyond if necessary.
- No artwork is permitted.
- Please check our Facebook page periodically for important updates that may not appear on our website.
- Overseas entries are welcome; however, your poem(s) and fee(s) must arrive within the time frame described above. Payment must be in USD in the form of a personal check. No Western Union or other forms of payment are accepted.
- Please read the requirements of individual categories to which you wish to submit and adhere to the requirements listed there. They are not all the same.
- You do not have to reside in Michigan or be a member of PSM to enter. Please visit: <https://poetrysocietyofmichigan.com> for full membership details and a membership form to fill out and return with payment, if you wish to join.  
Questions? Contact Diana Hart at [psmppcontest@gmail.com](mailto:psmppcontest@gmail.com).

**FORMATTING (read carefully):**

**1. EMAIL SUBMISSIONS (STRONGLY PREFERRED):**

- **Email subject line** must include *your last name*, and *2023 PSM Peninsula Poets Contest*.  
Example: “Hart, 2023 PSM Peninsula Poets Contest”
- In the **body of your email**, do include **all** the following, **and only** the following:
  - author’s full name and current PSM membership status (PSM Member: Yes/No)
  - mailing address, phone number, and email address
  - a list of category(ies) and poem title(s) being submitted
- **Submit poems in a single attachment:** Microsoft Word file, Times New Roman, size 12 font, single-spaced with one-inch margins. No headers, footers, or inserted page breaks. Poems should appear in numerical order by category number. Preferred: one poem per page (longer poems may run over a bit). Your name and contact information should not appear anywhere in or on the attachment. NO PDFs will be accepted. Each poem in the attachment should include only: Category#, poem title, poem, in that order, on each page of the attachment.
- Send your email submission to: [psmppcontest@gmail.com](mailto:psmppcontest@gmail.com). \*See **ENTRY FEE GUIDELINES** below.

**\*NOTE: even if your poems are submitted via email, your payment must be RECEIVED by us no later than Aug. 1. Postmark mailed checks by July 24, to ensure their arrival by the deadline, August 1. Late submissions (poems AND payment) will be disqualified, so plan accordingly.**

**2. HARD COPY SUBMISSIONS:**

- If you do not have email, please mail hard copies to PSM Peninsula Poets Contest Edition, c/o Diana Hart, 5325 Chickadee Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. **Same format as email (READ ABOVE):** one poem per page preferred (**if a poem is longer, please print double-sided, no staples**), with only the category#, title, and poem, in that order, on each poem. **Times New Roman, size 12 font, single-spaced, one-inch margins. Your name and contact information should not appear anywhere on any poem.**
- **Include a separate sheet with all the following, and only the following on it:**
  - author's full name and current PSM membership status (PSM Member: Yes/No)
  - mailing address, phone number, and email address
  - a list of category(ies) and poem title(s) being submitted
  - SASE for notification of receipt of materials.
  - Include your check for payment of entry fee(s), see below.

**\*NOTE: your hard copy poems AND payment must be RECEIVED by Aug. 1. Postmark your submission with check by July 24, to ensure arrival by the deadline, August 1. Late submissions (poems AND payment) will be disqualified. Plan accordingly.**

**ENTRY FEES:**

***\*NOTE: Non-member fees have changed this year***

**Categories 1 and 8:**

- Members: \$4 each
- Non-Members: \$6 each

**Categories 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10:**

- Members: \$2 each
- Non-Members: \$4 each

**\*Checks must be made out to: Poetry Society of Michigan and mailed to:**

PSM Peninsula Poets Contest Edition  
c/o Diana Hart  
5325 Chickadee Drive  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

**\*Payment in the form of checks in USD only are accepted.** Residents of AK and HI, and countries outside of the contiguous United States, must postmark submissions with payment no later than July 18. **Moneygram, Western Union and the like are not accepted.**

**\*If you are not a member and wish to join or update your membership:** please include with your submission a **separate check** in the amount of \$30 for the annual membership fee, designated as such in the 'for' line of your check. **If you are in doubt as to your membership status,** please inquire in advance of submitting so that your contest entry fee is calculated correctly and postmarked by July 24. Failure to correctly calculate your fees based on membership status may result in disqualification. Email Deb Belcher with questions regarding your membership status: [membership.psm@gmail.com](mailto:membership.psm@gmail.com)

**Category 1:** *Margo LaGattuta Memorial Award*

In 2011 **Margo LaGattuta** was posthumously named the first Honorary Chancellor for PSM. The category is sponsored by Polly Opsahl and Friends of Margo. Any subject, any form.

Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> - \$100, 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$50, 3<sup>rd</sup> - \$25

**Category 2:** *Chancellor's Prize*

**The Chancellor's Prize:** A poem of fourteen lines or less, on any subject. **Open to any poet who has not yet published a full-length book of poems** (self-published books excepted). Sponsored by Honorary Chancellor Eric Torgersen.

Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> - \$75, 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$50, 3<sup>rd</sup> - \$25

**Category 3:** *Founder's Prize*

**The Founder's Prize** is sponsored by Susan Anderson, in honor and memory of her grandfather Clifford Allen, one of the founding members of the Poetry Society of Michigan, for a poem in any style about Michigan.

Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> - \$50, 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$35, 3<sup>rd</sup> - \$15

**Category 4:** *The Barbara Sykes Memorial Humorous Poem*

**Barbara Sykes** loved to write humorous poems. The award is sponsored by her niece, Patricia Barnes, for a humorous poem in any form.

Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> - \$35, 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$25, 3<sup>rd</sup> - \$15

**Category 5:** *George Dila Memorial Prose Poem*

**George Dila** was a beloved award-winning writer of fiction and poetry and the founder of Ludington Visiting Writers. The award is sponsored by Phillip Sterling for a prose poem, any subject.

Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> - \$50, 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$35, 3<sup>rd</sup> - \$15

**Category 6:** *Nature – The Jude P. Dunbar Memorial Prize*

A poem in any style about Nature. The award is sponsored by Melanie Dunbar, in honor and memory of her father.

Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> - \$50, 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$35, 3<sup>rd</sup> - \$25

**Category 7:** *Love*

A poem in any style about Love. The award is sponsored by the Poetry Society of Michigan.

Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> - \$50, 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$35, 3<sup>rd</sup> - \$15

**Category 8:** *Music - The Faruq Z. Bey Award for Writing or Poetry related to Music*

This award is sponsored by the Detroit Writers' Guild (DWG) in honor of the great jazz saxophonist Faruq Z. Bey. Any form.

Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> - \$100, 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$50, 3<sup>rd</sup> - \$25

**Category 9:** *Loss*

This award is sponsored by George Wylie. A poem in any style about Loss.

Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> - \$35, 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$25, 3<sup>rd</sup> - \$15

**Category 10:** *Women and Science*

The **Lucille E. Thompson Decker Memorial Award** is sponsored by Dr. Kathleen P. Decker on behalf of her mother. Lucille was born in 1927 in Grand Rapids and had a distinguished academic and professional career before retiring as a Senior Associate Editor in the Biochemistry Department at Chemical Abstracts Services.

Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> - \$50, 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$35, 3<sup>rd</sup> - \$15