



LOMP *lighter*

ABOUT US

League of Minnesota Poets (LOMP), organized in 1934, holds biannual meetings, supports regional chapters in Minnesota, and publishes the *Moccasin* poem anthology.

www.mnpoets.com

MEMBERSHIP

Annual membership fee:
\$25 (\$15 for K-12 students)

Membership includes the quarterly newsletter, *LOMPLighter*, National Federation of State Poetry Societies membership, and the NFSPS annual publication, *Strophes*.

Mail fees to
LOMP Treasurer
PO Box 17344
Minneapolis, MN 55417

CHAPTERS

Heartland Poets ... Brainerd Lakes

Mississippi Valley Poets &
Writers Twin Cities

Southeastern Minnesota
Poets Rochester

Southern Minnesota Poets
Society Mankato

Grand View Poets
..... St. Cloud/Sartell

Cracked Walnut
..... Twin Cities

Story Portage Poets Ely

Duluth Poets Duluth

VIRTUAL LOMP FALL CONFERENCE OCT 17-18

Due to the risks associated with COVID-19, this year's Fall Conference will be virtual. You can participate via smartphone, tablet, laptop, or desktop computer. Contact LeagueOfMNPoets@gmail.com to register and receive the meeting IDs or hyperlinks for each session.

Saturday: Board meeting (2 hours) 9:30-11:30am
First 7 contest winners (categories 21-15) (1:00pm)
Poetry critique (2:30pm)
Second contest results (categories 14-18) (4:15pm)
Open mic with poems from critique (7:00pm)

Sunday: Open mic (9:00am)
A gathering of poets (9:45am)
General session (10:00am)
Final 7 contest winners (11:00am)

If you have never used Zoom, start by creating an account. Go to zoom.us and click the blue "Sign Up. It's Free" button. Although Zoom suggests you use your work email address, any type of email address will do. Once you've signed up, you'll receive an email from Zoom. Click "Activate Account." You'll be directed to fill in your name and set a password. Zoom will then suggest you recruit others, but you can click "Skip this step."

Install the Zoom app on your smartphone, tablet, or Chromebook; and once you have the hyperlinks for the sessions, you're ready to go.

If you are using a desktop computer or older laptop, you may want to add a webcam so you can transmit video of yourself—especially during open mic or critique sessions. Without a webcam, you won't be able to show your face, but you will be able to listen and speak during the meeting, share your screen, and view other participants.

KEY DATES

<i>October 17-18, 2020</i>	LOMP Fall Conference (virtual)
<i>October 27, 2020</i>	Recommended deadline to mail ballots
<i>November 3, 2020</i>	Election Day

LeadershipREPORT

The pandemic hit right when we were supposed to have our March 2020 show. This show was canceled. However, by April we had come up with a Virtual solution and we have been doing monthly shows ever since. August brought our biggest show yet, where we had national recording artist Dessa on to read some of her poetry. She did not disappoint. We will be continuing with virtual shows until a widely available vaccine arrives for COVID-19. We do have some amazing shows on the horizon. We are hoping to have a show curated by Button Poetry soon. We also have an LGBTQ+ show for our November show. Please keep up with us at:

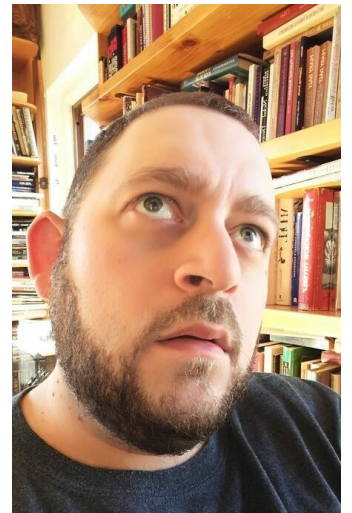
www.facebook.com/groups/poetsandpints

Poets & Pints and the folks at Err are teaming up to bring to you a one day poetry festival. A Totally Normal Arts Festival. The show will take place from 12 to 8pm on Saturday 10/24/2020. This will be a music and poetry festival that hopes to raise money for the National Independent Venue Association. A group that is organizing #saveourstages. A program that aims to help independent venues be able to reopen after the pandemic. Keep an eye on the Poets & Pints Facebook group as well as the Err Mpls Facebook group as it gets closer to the event. Specifics will be available soon.

Tony Plocido

Acting VP of Cracked Walnut
Host / Curator of Poets & Pints
Local Poet

poetsandpints@gmail.com



PANDEMIC PENPAL POETRY PROJECT

Help LOMP reach out to our neighbors in congregate housing who may have little (if any) opportunity to get outside, and may not be able to welcome visitors during this time of COVID 19 isolation. We need cheerful, encouraging poems and brief messages (your own poems or works in the public domain) for distribution to people of all ages throughout the state. Email your contributions in the body of an email or as Word docs or to penpalpoets@gmail.com. Use an easy-to-read font since many of the poems will be delivered to elders.

MOVING WORDS FEATURES MINNESOTA WRITERS

The Park Rapids Area Library invites the public to a free, online event with four Minnesota Book Award-winning authors. Join “Moving Words: Writers Across Minnesota” via Zoom at 6:30pm Thursday, September 10. Registration is required. thefriends.org/event/moving-words-writers-across-minnesota-25.

Hubbard County native Karen Babine won the 2020 Minnesota Book Award for creative nonfiction for her second book, “All the Wild Hungers.” Heid E. Erdrich has authored seven books of poetry, and her new book, “Little Big Bully,” won a National Poetry Series award. Heid is an Ojibwe enrolled at Turtle Mountain. Peter Geye is the author of the award-winning novels, “Safe from the Sea,” “The Lighthouse Road” and “Wintering,” winner of the Minnesota Book Award. Kao Kalia Yang is a Hmong-American writer. Her book, “The Song Poet,” won the 2016 Minnesota Book Award in creative nonfiction memoir.

MEMBER *Achievements*

NFSPS POETRY AWARDS TO MINNESOTANS

Congratulations to the following Minnesotans who received recognition in the 2020 NFSPS Poetry Contest.

Charmaine Pappas Donovan (Brainerd)—Donald Stodghill Memorial Award 1st Place (*Beseching the Raven*); Georgia Poetry Society Award HM; Alabama State Poetry Society Award HM; Power of Women Award HM

Deborah Goschy (Eagle Lake)—Ohio Award HM; Wyopoets Award 2nd Place (*A Letter from the Prairie, 1878*)

Ed Brekke-Krammer (Fairmont)—Stone Gathering Award HM

Henry Panowitsch (Mankato)—Prouty Memorial Award HM

Judith Feenstra (Maple Lake)—Land of Enchantment Award HM; The Robbie Award 3rd Place (*Shepherd*); Poetry Society of Michigan Award HM; Barbara Stevens Memorial Award HM

Laura Hanson (Little Falls)—Columbine Poets of Colorado Award HM

Libby Casey Irwin (Woodbury)—Winners Circle Award 2nd Place (*Upon Looking at a Photograph I See What Gifts Children and Stars Are*)

Meredith R. Cook (Blue Earth)—Jessica Saunders Memorial 1st Place (*Word Song*); Save Our Earth Award 2nd Place (*Fallout*); Poets Northwest Award 1st Place (*Achieving Détente, or, a Lesson for Xenophobic Warmongers*)

Micki Blenkush (St. Cloud)—Georgia Poetry Society Award HM; Jessica Saunders Memorial Award HM; Illinois State Poetry Society Award HM

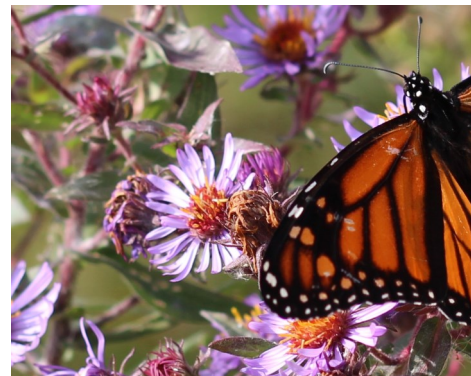
Mimi Jennings (St Paul)—Jessica C Saunders Memorial Award HM

Nancy Cook (St Paul)—Winners Circle Award HM; Georgia Poetry Society Award 3rd Place (*Gulf Oysters are Dying*); Traditional Haiku Award HM

Pam Whitfield (Rochester)—Jim Barton Memorial Award HM

Peter Stein (Minneapolis)—Alabama State Poetry Society Award HM; Illinois State Poetry Society Award HM

Susan Chambers (Good Thunder)—Virginia Corrie-Cozart Memorial Award 3rd Place (*What Should Have Been in the Obituary*); Arizona State Poetry Society Award 3rd Place (*Prediction for Tomorrow*); Mildred Vorpahl Baass Remembrance Award HM; LOMP Award HM; Wyopoets Award HM; Poets Northwest Award HM



ABOUT LOMP

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:
Peter Stein

VICE PRESIDENT/
MEMBERSHIP:
Amanda Bailey

SECRETARY:
David Stein

TREASURER:
Mary Schmidt

PAST PRESIDENT:
Dennis Herschbach

APPOINTMENTS

LOMP Poet Laureate:
Doris Stengel

MOCCASIN EDITOR:
Meredith R. Cook

HISTORIAN:
Amanda Bailey

LOMPLIGHTER EDITOR:
Joe Anderson

PUBLICITY CHAIR:
open

YOUTH CHAIR:
Brendan Brophy

CONTACT US

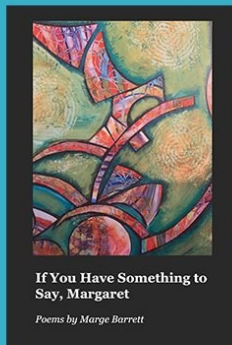
LeagueOfMNPoets@gmail.com

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The **LOFT**

If You Have Something to Say, Margaret
Book Launch featuring Marge Barrett
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 at 7 p.m.

Author Marge Barrett, celebrating her latest poetry publication, in conversation with Britt Udesen, Loft Executive Director.



POETRY CONTESTS, CALLS, OR READINGS

CONTESTS BY NFSPS CHAPTERS

Entries for the **California State Poetry Society's** monthly contest must be postmarked during the month of the contest in which they are entered. October entries should focus on war, peace, activism, or politics.

www.californiastatepoetrysociety.org/our-contests

The **Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas** also sponsors monthly contests (only open to PRA members). Poems must be postmarked by the second Saturday of the month.

poetsroundtableofarkansas.org/contests/

The **Arizona State Poetry Society** is once again sponsoring a national poetry contest in ten different categories. Submissions are being accepted through September 30, 2020. Winning poems will be published in the 2020 *Sandcutters*, the annual journal featuring monthly winners and annual contest winners. azpoetry.webs.com/annual-contest

The **Illinois State Poetry Society** is holding their 27th annual poetry contest. Submissions must be postmarked by October 31.

www.illinoispoets.org/contest.htm

South Dakota State Poetry Society entries are due December 1. The contest features two categories: Portrait poems, which must be about someone from South Dakota; and Landscape poems, which must feature the natural environment of South Dakota. Electronic entries only. sdpoetry.org/annual-contest/

MINNESOTA BOOK AWARDS SEEKING ENTRIES

The Minnesota Book Awards, a program of The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library, is seeking submissions of books written by Minnesota residents and published in 2020. Guidelines available at thefriends.org/minnesota-book-awards. Deadline: Friday, November 13

READINGS FROM "A MOMENT OF SILENCE"

Literary Lights will host a Zoom reading October 4, 2:00-3:00 p.m. featuring the online anthology *A Moment of Silence* (blackmnvoices.com). *A Moment of Silence* offers unabashed accounts by Black artists in Minnesota facing the George Floyd uprising and COVID-19. The anthology shines a light on a rich Minnesota literary community of leaders, activists, politicians, mothers, scholars, youth, and elders who speak truth and resilience at a time when it is needed most. Featured readers are Abdifatah Farah, Joe Davis, ShaVunda Brown, and Wisdom Young. To register go to www.nextchapterbooksellers.com/event/cracked-walnut-presents-literary-lights

SECOND SUNDAY READINGS

The Duluth Poet Laureate Project announces the "Second Sunday Reading Series," three online poetry readings at 3:00pm, September 13 with Phil Fitzpatrick and Daniel Oyinloye; October 11 with Deborah Cooper and John Herold; and November 8 with Sheila Packa and Blair Powless.

The public is invited to view the readings through a ZOOM online portal; please register with Gary Boelhower through email, gboelhower@msn.com.

U OF M VISITING WRITERS SERIES

Presented by the Edelstein-Keller Visiting Writer Series and Creative Writing, these readings will be available via Zoom. Visit cla.umn.edu/english/news-events/news/fall-2020-visiting-writers-series for registration information.

Thursday, October 15, 7:00pm: Ada Limón, the author of five books of poetry, most recently *The Carrying*, which won the 2018 National Book Critics Circle Award for Poetry. Thursday, October 29, 7:00pm: Hanif Abdurraqib, a poet, essayist, and cultural critic from Columbus, Ohio.

BOOK RELEASE

SubText Books is pleased to present a virtual event, Thursday, September 24, 6:30pm, with Richard Terril and Michael Torres, to celebrate the release of Terril's *What Falls Away Is Always*. subtextbooks.com/events/2020/9/24/richard-terril-and-michael-torres