

# AUSTIN POETRY SOCIETY

## PROUDLY PRESENTS THE:

# MUSELETTER

January 2016

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We are delighted to add the following talents to our growing ranks:

Cydney Golson

Nathan Brown

Mary Dallas

Thank you for joining APS- we look forward to getting to know you.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Our first meeting of the year is January 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Yarborough Branch Library from 1:30-3:30pm. Check out our guest speaker!

**Chuck Taylor** is the publisher of Slough Press. He taught Creative Writing for 25 years at Texas A&M and won the Austin Book Award in 1988 for his book, *What Do You Want, Blood?* Chuck will speak about publishing, writing poetry and, of course, read some of his own work. Find out more [here](#).

## ANNUAL CONTESTS

The Annual Contest categories and guidelines are [online](#)! You can enter by mail or online via Submittable. There are 25 contests this year, with a total of \$2,135 in prize money. The deadline for entry is April 1<sup>st</sup>. Good luck!

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*The next round of Monthly Contest  
Submissions are due at the January meeting*

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## MONTHLY CONTEST RESULTS

The votes are in for the latest monthly contest! Here's the bio of our lovely contest judge:

**Ir'ene Lara Silva** has been a fixture in the Austin poetry scene for years. She is co-coordinator of the Flor De Nopal Literary Festival, and is in demand as a speaker and workshop presenter. She was the guest speaker at an APS meeting in 2014. Her poems, stories, and essays have appeared in over forty journals including *Borderlands: Texas Poetry Review*, *Palabra* and *Improbable Worlds Anthology*. Her second poetry book *Blood Sugar Cantos* has just been released.



## Judge's Choices

**General Verse:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place: "At Twilight" La Vern Spencer McCarthy; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: "Mr. Ashagi" Cynthia Drake; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: "Thirty Years of Empty" Barbara Blanks; 4<sup>th</sup> Place: "Pledge from a Passerby" Marc McMahon; 5<sup>th</sup> Place: "Quaesitor" Diane Hinman

**Light Verse:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place: "Why Grandpa Smiles" La Vern Spencer McCarthy; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: "Ravin' Mad" Barbara Blanks; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: "Italy" Cynthia Drake; 4<sup>th</sup> Place: "CIGARETTE" Bradley Strahan; 5<sup>th</sup> Place: "Death by Curiosity" Marc McMahon

## Popular Vote

**General Verse:** 1st Place: "Mr. Ashagi" Cynthia Drake; Tie for 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: "Pledge from a Passerby" Marc McMahon & "Thirty Years of Empty" Barbara Blanks

**Light Verse:** 1st place: "CIGARETTE" Bradley Strahan; 2nd place: "Ravin' Mad" Barbara Blanks; 3rd place: "Why Grandpa Smiles" La Vern Spencer McCarthy

## Reminder

If you haven't already received/purchased a copy of our annual anthology, you can do so [here!](#)

## WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU?

**Kaye Voigt Abikhaled** judged the 2015 Anita McAndrews Poetry Award for Stazja McFadyen, its administrator. She read new poetry from her manuscript, *The Thin Rim of Earth* at Half Price Books on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Cross-Cultural Communications** published a new Bilingual Broadside Series available [here](#).

**Mark Jodon's** book of poetry *Day of the Speckled Trout* was published by Transcendent Press. Available [here](#).

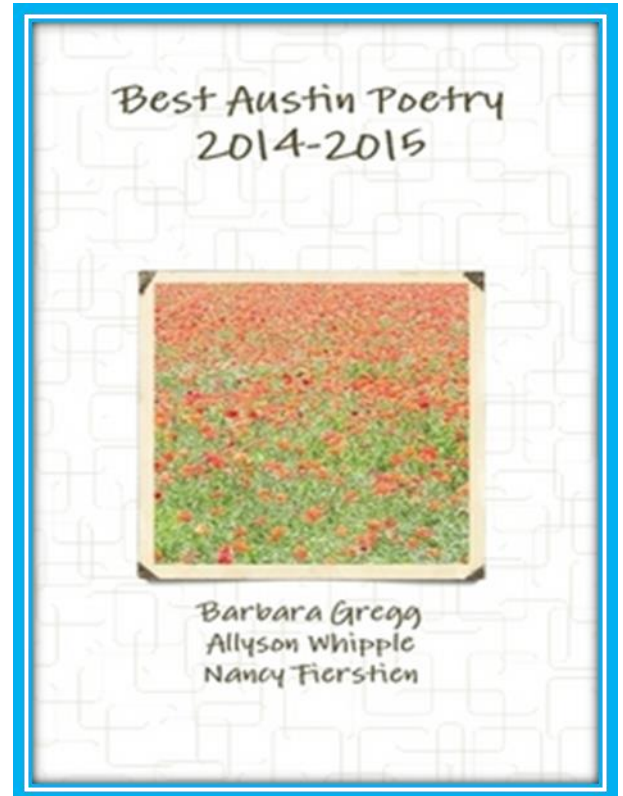
**Gavin McGill's** poem "The Navajo Code Talker" was accepted by Dos Gatos Press' *Anthology of the Southwest*.

**Katherine D. Oldmixon's** poem "En Plein Air" appears in *Cactus Heart 13* (Fall 2015); "White Throated Lily" is on *Cattails* (September 2015), and "White Irises" is in the *2016 Texas Poetry Calendar*. In the fall, she served as the guest poetry editor for the Winter 2015 issue of *Ilanot Review*, themed **Migrations**. *Tupelo Quarterly 9* is forthcoming.

**Christa Pandey's** hymn "God's Web" was sung by the New Life (Dripping Springs) Lutheran Church's choir during worship on December 20.

**Anjela Villarreal Ratliff** had two poems, "Alamo Boy" and "Sufrimiento: A Migrant Life," accepted for inclusion in the Dos Gatos Press upcoming publication, *Southwest Persona Anthology*, edited by Scott Wiggerman and Cindy Huyser.

**Susan J. Rogers** had "Artist in the Schools" win the 1st Place Winner Practically Speaking Contest, APS Annual Awards, published in *Best Austin Poetry 2014-2015*. "Tara - Remover of Sorrow" was published in *The Enigmatist 2015*. "Impeccable Virtue" was published in *Blue Hole 2015*. "There Was a Crooked Man" was the 1st Place Winner of the Pamelyn Casto Prize, The Poetry Society of Texas 2015 Annual Awards, to be published in *The Poetry Society of Texas 2016 Annual Book of the Year*.



**Shubh Schiesser** had 16 poems accepted for publication in the Anthology *Moments* in India, with five other exceptionally brilliant international poets. The Anthology is edited by the famous Uma Trilok.

## Connect with Us!

[www.austinpoetrysociety.org](http://www.austinpoetrysociety.org)

Facebook (click it)

Twitter (click it again)

[austinpoetrysociety@gmail.com](mailto:austinpoetrysociety@gmail.com)

The Austin Poetry Society  
P.O. Box 41346  
Austin, TX 78704

**ire'ne lara silva**, award-winning poet and short story writer, has an upcoming workshop and manuscript consultation sessions. Check out her [website](#) for more info.

**Bradley Strahan's** latest book *A Parting Glass* is listed on [Amazon](#) with a 5 star review!

**Susan Beall Summers** was featured at Barnes & Noble in Webster, TX. She had a poem accepted for *Illya's Honey*. Poems published: Marcie Eanes tribute poem in *Harbinger Asylum*, "A Young Girl Reading" ekphrastic poem in *Silver Birch Press*, "Cookie Jar" & "Probation Shell Game" in *Anthology of the Mad Ones*, Weasel Press, "Satellite Radio" in *Yellow Chair Review*, Pop Culture Issue.

## MEET ME THERE...

Jan 9 (Saturday) 1-3pm-APS Critique Group-Hosted by Elizabeth Kropf. Bring 10 copies of a draft to discuss. Email [elizabethrebeccakropf@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethrebeccakropf@gmail.com) for the prompt. @ Yarborough Branch Library 2200 Hancock Dr, Austin, TX 78756.

Jan 9 (Saturday) 1:30-3pm- The Round Rock Library and Visions International present: A Poetry Afternoon. Featured readers include: Gloria Amescua, Sonny Regelman, and Kathryn Culpepper. Followed by an open reading. @ the Round Rock Library 216 E Main St, Round Rock, TX 78664.

Jan 9 (Saturday) 3:30-4:45pm- Katherine D. Oldmixon, Jane Chance, Joe Ricke, Jane Beall, and Susan Morrison will participate in a "Medievalist Poetry Reading" at the MLA (Modern Language Association) meeting @ the JW Marriott Austin Convention Center.

Jan 10 (Sunday) 4-6pm- The Austin Writers Roulette is an adult monthly theme-inspired spoken word and storytelling event. Donations are welcomed at this free event. Find the theme for January at [www.austinwritersroulette.com](http://www.austinwritersroulette.com) @ Malvern Books, 613 W 29<sup>th</sup> St, Austin, TX 78705.

Jan 10 (every Sunday, except for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month) 7-10pm-Spoken & Heard Open Mic. @ Kick Butt Coffee Shop, 5775 W Airport Blvd, Austin, TX 78752.

Jan 11 (Mondays) 6-9pm- Cacophony of Crafts: Weekly round robin reading, hosted by Rhie Azzam Morris. @Epoch Coffee, 2700 West Anderson #409, Austin, TX 78757.

Jan 12 (Second Tuesdays) 7pm- Pot luck. Poetry. Music. Theme word is MUSE! Hosted by Genevieve Evans. Rotating venues (email--[gen.athena.evans@gmail.com](mailto:gen.athena.evans@gmail.com)).

Jan 14 (Thursday) 7:15pm- Cindy Huyser hosts the 2nd Thursday Poetry Reading and Open Mic. Debra Winegarten will be the featured reader. @ BookWoman, 5501 N Lamar Blvd A-105, Austin, TX 78751.

Jan 15 (3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays) 1-3pm- Share Your Stories. Hosted by Ralph Hausser. @ the Twin Oaks Library, 1800 S. 5th Street, Austin 78704.

Jan 16 (Saturday) 3:30-5:30pm- Open Mike Showcase (poetry, theatre, music, dance, etc). Hosted by Louise Richardson. @ Recyled Reads, 5335 Burnet Rd, Austin, TX 78756.

Jan 16 (Saturday) 7pm- Awesmic City Cafe- Potluck dinner, poetry and music in the atrium. Bring New Years Absolute Resolution Poetry and/or music and/or stories. Contact: anyah7777@aol.com for more information! @ Geo Growers, 12002 Hwy 290 West, Austin, TX 78737. Park at the front parking lot of the store.

Jan 16 (Saruday) 7pm- Book release reading for ire'ne lara silva's second collection of poetry, *Blood Sugar Canto*. Books available for purchase. @ the ESB-Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St, Austin, TX.

Jan 21 (Thursday) 7pm- Thirsty Thursday resumes: Michael Coffey, the pastor at Austin's First English Lutheran Church, will share work from his collection, *Mystery Without Rhyme or Reason*. His book was published in July of 2015 by Wipf & Stock. He also writes the blog Ocotillo Pub. The open mike theme is "Gifts". For more information, call host Nancy Fierstien at 512-858-2024. @ the ranch house at Dripping Springs Ranch Park, 1042 Event Center Drive.

Jan 22 (every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday) 6:30-8:30pm-Poetry Plus Open Mic Night-all genres welcome. Sign up beforehand by emailing Mike & Joyce Gullickson [poetkind@yahoo.com](mailto:poetkind@yahoo.com) or Mike Jones [8direct@gmail.com](mailto:8direct@gmail.com) @ Cianfrani Coffee Co. 109 W 7<sup>th</sup> St, Georgetown, TX 78626.

Jan 23 (4<sup>th</sup> Saturday) 1:30-3:30pm- APS Monthly Meeting featuring Chuck Taylor. @ Yarborough Branch Library 2200 Hancock Dr, Austin, TX 78756.

Jan 28 (Thursday) 6:45pm- Linda Marie Cossa hosts the APS Open Mike Night, featured readers: Mary Anne Wizard, Alyse Guyan, Sarah Web, Ron Kevin, Mike Jones, Birdman 313. Includes a meet and great info session for the Austin International Poetry Festival. @ NewWorldDeli 4101 Guadalupe St, Austin, TX 78751.

Jan 31 (Sunday) 6pm- TORCH Wildfire Reading Series featuring Mahogany L. Browne, author of *Redbone*, and Ebony Stewart, author of *Love Letters to Balled Fists*. Come out for an evening of poetry and bring your own work to share! @ BookWoman, 5501 N Lamar Blvd A-105, Austin, TX 78751.

Feb 6 (Saturday) 3-5pm- Half Price Books presents "Positive Love Poetry!" a round robin open mike for all who choose to love in 2016. @ Half-Price Books 5555 North Lamar, Austin, TX.

Feb 6 (Saturday) 6pm- Expressions! Featuring Austin Quantum Artist-"Love Poems Only"and How to Make Love Last!

(with couples who have succeeded so far!) Potluck.Poets Pantry.

All ages reading. @ The Austin Bahai Center 2215 E.M Franklin Ave, Austin, TX 78723.

Feb 13 (Saturday) 1-3pm-APS Critique Group-Hosted by Elizabeth Kropf. Bring 10 copies of a draft to discuss. Email [elizabethrebeccakropf@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethrebeccakropf@gmail.com) for the prompt. @ Yarborough Branch Library 2200 Hancock Dr, Austin, TX 78756.

Feb 20 (Saturday) 1:30-3:30pm- APS Monthly Meeting featuring poet Carrie Fountain. @ Yarborough Branch Library 2200 Hancock Dr, Austin, TX 78756.

Apr 1 (Friday) –Deadline for entry in APS Annual Contest.

Apr 2 (Saturday) 1-3pm- The First Annual SPED Spokenword Slam and Open Mic Showcase. Free Admission and parking. Email Michael Guinn at [jordanmichaelg@yahoo.com](mailto:jordanmichaelg@yahoo.com) for more info. @ Arlington Improv At The Highlands, 309 Curtis Mathis Way, Arlington, Texas.

Registration for Poetry at Round Top (April 15-17, 2016) will open February 1, 2016. Featured poets include Robert Hass, Dorianne Laux, Terrance Hayes, Dunya Mikhai, Benjamin Saenz, Carmen Tafolla, Rosemary Catacalos, Sasha West, and Maurice Manning. You can find the full lineup with bios, workshop descriptions, program schedule, etc, [here](#).