

Georgia Poetry Society

AUTUMN 2022 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



Poetry News tells of local and national poetry-related events.

Community Wise focuses on poetry-related happenings.

New Board Members offers a brief introduction to two of our new board members.

Mark your calendars for the Autumn Quarterly meeting on **October 22nd**



IN THIS ISSUE

President’s Message 2

Poetry News 3

Quarterly Meeting 4

Community Wise 5-6

New Board Members 7-8

From the editor’s desk 9

2022 OFFICERS

President: Lucinda Clark

President@georgiapoetrysociety.org

Vice President: George Hess

VP@georgiapoetrysociety.org

Secretary: *vacant*

Secy@georgiapoetrysociety.org

Treasurer: Donna Rose Mulcahy

gpstreas@gmail.com

2022 BOARD

Rose Mincey

Sheema Kalbasi

Sharon Schroeder

Elizabeth Van Deusen

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello GPS Community!

I write as we come to the end of many things--our eyes, hearts and minds looking to the future.

We see the world announce the end of the pandemic, which means we can once again gather face to face. I don't know about you, but I find this has caused me to speed up in order to keep up. It has been a little stressful if I can be completely honest, especially with all the old and new ways we have learned to connect.



This brings me to my message. We, the board members of this fine organization, have had to assess who we are and what we are here to do in this new changed world. Poetry still has a very important place. It is the literary form that kept many of us from running into the night screaming. It has been a comfort in many life altering situations.

I challenge you to check in on what we, your board, have done to facilitate our reemergence. I ask that you visit our updated website and social media outlets. Thank Marion Owens, our web guy, for his efforts. For this newsletter you are reading, thank Laurie for keeping us informed. Thank George Hess, Betsy Van Deusen and Sharon Schroeder for their efforts in making it possible to have our next quarterly meeting on October 22nd. Last but not least, thanks to Doris Davenport and Patricia Percival for working through the challenges that come with the finished product we so proudly call the *Reach of Song 2022 Anthology*. We have added to our board, but more hands are needed. For us to complete the next phase of our reemergence, we need you, dear reader, to ask yourself what you are willing to do and act on your answer.

We look forward to seeing you in person soon. Until then, be safe and write on.

Waxing Poetic in service,
Lucinda Clark

President, Georgia Poetry Society

POETRY NEWS

Nationally . . .

In July 2022, **Ada Limon** became the 24th Poet Laureate of the United States. If you are unfamiliar with her work, look into the collection titled *The Carrying*, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for Poetry.

The journal *Feminist Studies* celebrates its 50th year. Notably, the current issue celebrates the 40th anniversary of two important anthologies: *This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color* (Persephone Press, 1981; Kitchen Table Press, 1983) and *All the Women Are White, All the Blacks Are Men, But Some of Us Are Brave: Black Women's Studies* (The Feminist Press, 1982).

Our parent organization, [NFSPS](#), offers several contests each year. In 2022, the organization added the Blackberry Peach contest for spoken word poetry.

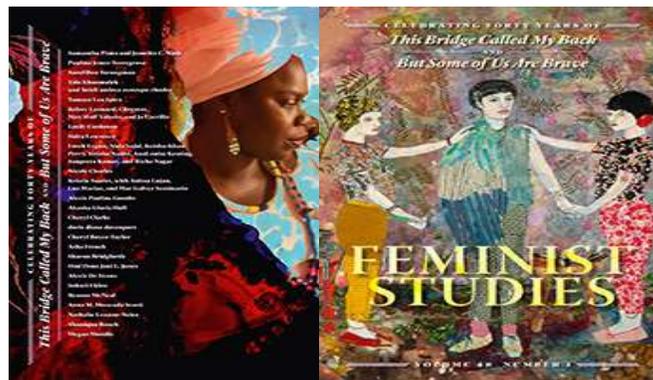
Locally . . .

Congratulations to our members on their recent publications, events and awards!

Joe Cobb Crawford was the featured presenter at the Fall meeting of The 3 Arts Club of Cornelia, Georgia. Joe is the author of nine self-published books. He's a columnist for [The Best of the North Georgia Mountains](#) magazine. His works have also been published in Reach of Song.

Though he refers to himself as a “reluctant poet”, Joe gave an entertaining talk on the process of writing poetry. He outlined the 4 Ms of *good* poetry: Meaning, Movement, e-Motion and Metaphor.

Recently, **doris davenport** shared her [poetry online](#) for Poetry X Hunger. Her poem “On Being an HBCU Graduate, Teacher, Professor-Scholar at Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, AL, in May 2015” was published in the current issue of *Feminist Studies*.



AUTUMN 2022 QUARTERLY MEETING

October 22nd at 10:00amEST

Location: Augusta University Literacy Center, Augusta, GA
[1401 Magnolia Dr, Augusta, GA 30909](https://www.augusta.edu/literacy-center)

Zoom Option

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7255851285?pwd=K3kzZUJwZoxnVVUyLo5ZRUIFTHpOZz09> Meeting ID: 725 585 1285 Passcode: will be shared closer to meeting date

Featured Presenter: [Marquice Williams](#), poet from Savannah known for captivating spoken word performances; follow the link to learn more

Schedule of Events

10:00 Call to order and announcements

10:30 Marquice Williams: A Learning Experience and Reading

Followed by open mic

11:00 Closing announcements and adjournment

Welcome, all! Come, Friends and Neighbors!

GPS Quarterly Meetings are open to all who are interested, though youngsters under the age of 18 years must be accompanied by an adult.

ALL GPS MEMBERS . . .

Please remember to submit your news items for

the Winter newsletter by December 9th.

I welcome any feedback on the newsletter.

Let me know if you have suggestions of people to interview or places to explore. After all, this is YOUR society.

Community Wise

National Federation Of State Poetry Societies, Inc. Manningham Trust Student Poetry Contest Rules: 2023 annual competition

Ten prizes will be awarded in each division:

First Place - \$75, Second Place - \$50, Third Place - \$40, Fourth Place - \$35, Fifth Place - \$30, and five Honorable Mentions - \$10 each.

All winning poems will be published in the Manningham Trust Poetry Student Award Anthology. Winners will receive complimentary copies. The schools of each winning student will receive a complimentary copy for the school library.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, there were no awards given for 2022. Students who submitted their poems to the 2022 contest are encouraged to resubmit their poems for the 2023 contest.

No entry fee

1. There are two divisions: Grade 6-8 (Junior Division) and Grades 9-12 (Senior Division). Competition is open to all qualified students. Poems may have been previously published and/or have won previous awards.

2. The competition is open to all USA students in grades 6 - 12. Public, private, and home schools are eligible for entry by individual submission. **Individual poets may only submit one poem.**

3. All entries must be entered through **Submittable**, and the proper application form must be completed, indicating poet's contact information, school attended, and grade student is currently in. All students can open a Submittable account for no cost, and there is no entry fee for the contest. Go to **www.nfsps.submittable.com** and check the appropriate grade level to submit.

4. Each poem must be neatly typed or computer-generated and have no more than 35 lines, including space lines with no line having more than 60 characters, including spaces and punctuation. A student's one poem entered should appear on a single sheet. **There should be no large or unusual fonts or illustrations.** Times New Roman is the suggested font. No font larger than 12 point should be used. Larger fonts also make it impossible to confine the poem to one page, which is required.

5. The poem submitted must not have ID information. There should be no indication of prior awards granted or publication information. Winners may be asked for that information to be provided at the time of publication.

6. Each entrant must make a declaration of originality. The statement will be included in the Submittable application: “I certify that this poem is my original work and has not been copied in whole or part from any author’s poems in print or posted on the Internet. Signed: _____”

7. Entries must be received on Submittable between September 15, 2022 and November 15, 2022.

Notice of winners will be sent to each state’s Manningham (Youth) chair. Awards (certificates, checks, anthologies) will also be mailed to the student. Each member state is responsible for celebrating their state’s winners. The top winning poems will be read at the Annual NFSPS Convention held in June 2023.

Any questions can be directed to nfspdsecretary@gmail.com.



Check out our bookstore offerings:
Award-winning chapbooks
Reach of Song anthologies
Guest speaker publications
Fabulous works by your fellow GPS members!

Meet Your New Board Members . . .



Elizabeth (Betsy) Van Deusen, Director of the Augusta University Literacy Center and Associate Professor of the Department of Teaching and Leading, has joined the GPS Board. She has vast experience in higher education with a focus on promoting literacy. In a recent article co-written by Betsy and Jennifer Majorana, the authors assert poetry can help students develop critical thinking skills. Betsy kindly engaged in a brief Q&A with your newsletter editor.

E: How long have been a member of GPS?

B: Two months! I'm new to Georgia, moving here in January 2022 from Michigan.

E: Do you remember your first poetic inspiration?

B: I do remember my first inspiration. It was my Grandpa, who lived with us. He loved Carl Sandburg and had books and books. He read them to me, and I eventually read them back to him. When I was in sixth grade, he helped me pick the poem I learned to recite: "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud" by Wordsworth.

E: What goals or plans do you have for GPS?

B: I'm eager to stay connected with poetry that I use so often both personally and professionally. I'm excited to meet new poetry people and serve this amazing society.

E: Just for fun, what's your favorite word?

B: Serendipity



Rose Mincey is owner, author and artistic creator of *Toucharose*, combining her education in business administration with her natural creativity. Rose will serve as the new Member Outreach Chair of the GPS Board. She has a background in mentoring, advising, activity planning and job developing. Rose agreed to answer a few questions so we can get to know a little bit about her.

E: What excites you most about the society?

R: In the time that I've had the pleasure of being a member of GPS, my excitement and anticipation has bloomed. The thought of having the opportunity to share my God-given gifts with the members of GPS and beyond is far more than I ever imagined possible. The enormous reach and followers of Georgia Poetry Society will and has allowed *Toucharose* and so many others to express themselves without leaving their homes. That truth alone makes my entire body smile.

E: When did you write your first poem?

R: In 1976 I wrote my very first poem—it was for a boy who made me feel he was the love of my life. Fortunately, since then my writing has improved, and with age I have grown to realize *I* am the love of my life.

E: What are your plans for member outreach?

R: I look forward to working with the Board as an advocate for member outreach. My efforts will focus on youth and adolescents, as well as the elderly. I wish to emphasize the therapeutic role expression through writing provides via essays, short stories and, of course, poetry. I know on a personal level how poetry can be mentally and financially rewarding through my more than 40 years of writing.

E: Is there anything else you'd like to share with other GPS members?

R: Expressing ourselves is what we were all built to do. Express your truth. *Toucharose* loves you.



From the Editor's Desk . . .

In Autumn thoughts turn dark, not sinister, but brooding—Poe's Raven lurks and every country lane leads to Sleepy Hollow For those who use words as a web to ensnare a reader's mind, this IS the enchanted season.

Summer's light reveals—scorches!— all, but Autumn's shadow conceals. We participate willingly in a little self-deception. It's the season of "things are not as they seem". Even the hardwood trees paint their leaves with colors that defy description.

Here in Georgia, the weather is mutable this time of year. Transition time, all in flux. We know the cold is coming-- the threat of ice, the power disruptions. But we can choose to revel in the glory of Autumn.

I encourage you to explore. Read a new genre. Write from a different perspective. The world is opening up. Be ready to face it with new courage. Let your voice be heard. We all need that connection, that feeling of unity.

Poetry is that connection, so let's celebrate our craft. Join your fellow GPS members for the quarterly meeting, whether in person or via Zoom.

Laurie Jones, Newsletter Editor

