



Festival Friends

Poet of the Year Competition 2017

Terms and Conditions

1. Entry is open to all adults over the age of 18 years on 28 September 2017. National and International entries are welcome. Any number of poems may be submitted but no alterations may be made to a poem once it has been submitted.
2. The closing date for the Competition is Monday 19 June 2017. Entries may be emailed to tina@canterburyfestival.co.uk or posted/delivered to: Adult Poetry Competition, Festival Office, 8 Orange Street, Canterbury, Kent., CT1 2JA, by midnight on that date. Entries will not be returned so please keep a copy.
3. An entry form must accompany each submission and a £5 entry fee paid for each poem. Only one entry form and one payment need be sent even if several poems are submitted. Payment may be made by PayPal; an invoice will be issued upon receipt of the entries, or by cheque made payable to *Canterbury Festival Foundation (Friends)*. Should payment not be received with hard copy entries or within five days of the issue of the PayPal invoice, the poems will not be entered into the Competition.
4. The poem or poem sequence may be on any subject and in any style but **must not exceed 60 lines in length**. It should be principally in English; incidental foreign words/phrases and the use of regional variants are permitted.
5. Entries are judged anonymously and **the poet's name and address should not appear on the poem itself**.
6. Handwritten entries cannot be accepted. Hard copy entries should be typed in black ink on A4 paper. Please do not staple entries.
7. Entries must be the poet's original, unpublished work (including any website, public blog, online forum or broadcasting medium) and not accepted for publication before the Awards Evening on 3 October 2017; please note all entries will be checked. Ownership remains with the poet at all times; the Festival will not assume any share in copyright. The Festival Friends are not responsible for any claim of plagiarism which will be directed to the poet alone.

8. Once submitted the poems will be deemed to have been freely entered into the Competition and may not be withdrawn unless under exceptional circumstances and with the express permission of the judges.
9. Poems will be sent anonymously to the judging panel:
 - Nancy Gaffield (Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing, University of Kent)
 - Jen Syrkiewicz (Joint Poet of the Year 2016)
 - Derek Sellen (Award-Winning Poet representing SaveAs Writers)
10. The Competition organisers reserve the right to change the judging panel.
11. The judges' decision is final.
12. A longlist of entries will be selected and **published in the 2017 anthology**. These must be in electronic format; if submitted in hard copy longlisted poets will be asked to re-submit the selected poems by email. Longlisted poets may claim a free copy of the anthology which will also be on general sale.
13. A shortlist will be chosen from the longlisted poems and the poets will be asked to read their poems at the Awards Evening on 3 October 2017. If they are unable to attend or prefer not to read themselves, they may nominate a reader or request the judges to do this on their behalf. Nominated readers will not qualify for the 'Best Read Poem' award.
14. The Awards Evening will take place on Tuesday 3 October 2017 in The Gulbenkian Theatre, University of Kent, when the winning poems will be announced. Doors open at 7pm and readings begin at 7.30pm. The **Winner** will be named *Canterbury Festival Poet of the Year* and receive the **University of Kent Prize of £200**. **£100** will be awarded for the **second**, **£50** for the **third places**, and **£25** will be awarded to the **People's Choice** voted for on the night. The **Best-Read Poem**, as read by the poet, will receive a bottle of **Sparkling Wine**.