



2015 Alfred Poynt Award in Poetry

In the spirit of stimulating the imagination, promoting creativity, and fostering appreciation of English language skills and the art of poetry, the Department of English and Writing Studies is pleased to announce a competition for the annual Alfred Poynt Award in Poetry.

This award is made in accordance with the wishes and through the generosity of the late Alfred R. Poynt of London, Ontario, and will be presented in May of each year. The competition is open to students registered full time in any undergraduate program at Western University.

Deadline: April 8, 2015 Prize: \$250.00 (first prize); \$100 (four other prizes)

Judging Panel:



Ola Nowosad is a teacher with the Thames Valley District School Board. She has taught English and Creative Writing at the high school and college levels. She continues to be very involved in Poetry in Voice—a nation-wide poetry recitation program for students. Her poems have appeared locally, including ‘on the bus’, and have received first-prize recognition in poetry competitions. Most recently, she shared her award-winning poem “homeless” at the 25th Anniversary campaign of the London InterCommunity Health Centre. As a board member of Poetry London, she facilitates poetry workshops and helps organize poetry events.



Laurie D. Graham is the author of *Rove* (Hagios Press, 2013), which was shortlisted for the Gerald Lampert Memorial Award for best first book of poetry by a Canadian. She is an editor of *Brick* magazine and a regular reviewer for the literary journals *The Malahat Review*, *The Fiddlehead*, and *Room*. Her poetic work recently won the Thomas Morton Memorial Prize and was shortlisted for the CBC Poetry Prize. Graham holds a BA in English from the University of Alberta, a BFA in creative writing from the University of Victoria, and an MFA from the University of Guelph. She grew up in Sherwood Park, Alberta, and has since lived in Edmonton, Victoria, Toronto, and now London, Ontario, where she teaches at Fanshawe College.



Ron Stewart is a retired airline pilot turned poet. When asked why he turned to poetry, he replied that both careers are two syllable words that start with p and end with t, and, as a person with not a lot of imagination, he thought it appropriate. Ron has been published in journals, anthologies, and online. One of his poems was carved in stone on his dear departed friend’s tombstone. His “A Boy Growing up in London” poem was studied in an English class in Sweden. He has read in library basements, coffee shops, churches, museums, art galleries, and bars. Both as a performer and judge, Ron has participated in slam poetry events and has judged the Poetry in Voice high school competitions. Ron created and ran a poetry workshop in Landon Library for 5 years before retiring to pursue other challenges. He won the Great Blue Heron Poetry Award in 2006 and the poetry division of the Coffee Shop Authors competition in 2010. As a judge in the Poynt Poetry Contest, he is not above accepting bribes.

Poetry Contest Rules

Poems must be in English and may use any style of poetry.

Maximum 150 lines/4 pages (one longer poem or several shorter poems).

Entries must be original, titled, previously unpublished, and not under consideration to be published.

Poems must be typed on 8.5 x 11 paper in 12-point type.

Submission: on a cover page marked Poynt Competition, please include your name, student number, permanent mailing address, telephone number, email address, and title of poem(s). Do not include your name on the poem page. No staples. Submissions will be numbered and coded before the judging by a contest organizer who is not a judge.

Please submit entries to:

**Poynt Competition, Department of English and Writing Studies
Arts & Humanities Building, Room 2G02, Western University**

For full contest rules visit www.westernu.ca/english