

The Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities, Case Western Reserve University,
and Cleveland Botanical Garden
Present

Poetry Contest, Fall 2009

Poets over the centuries have turned to nature and gardens for inspiration. How are poets today responding to nature, the environment, and gardens? Given our community's growing interest in "going green", we are seeking poems that engage with the natural world.

Guidelines:

The contest is open to poets of high school age and above. Only poems that have not been published previously may be submitted. Each poet may submit up to three poems; the entire entry should not exceed 10 pages.

Each author must submit their poems with a cover sheet including name, address, phone(s), and email address. The author's name should appear only on the cover letter and not on the poems themselves. Each entry will be assigned a number for blind judging.

The poems and cover sheet should be submitted electronically to bakernord@case.edu. Please request confirmation of receipt.

Deadline for submission: 11 September 2009 by 5 pm, no exceptions.

Judging:

Joanna Klink will serve as judge for the contest. Klink is author of two books of poetry: *They Are Sleeping* (University of Georgia Press, 2000), and *Circadian* (Penguin, 2007). A recipient of a Rona Jaffe Writer's Award in 2003, her poems have appeared in *Boston Review*, *Ploughshares*, *The Kenyon Review*, *Denver Quarterly*, and other journals. She is currently the Briggs-Copeland Poet at Harvard University.

Winners:

Winners will be notified by 26 September 2009 and are expected to participate in "Poetry in the Garden" on 3 October.

Hosted by Cleveland Botanical Garden, and co-sponsored by the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities, "Poetry in the Garden" will feature a reading by visiting poet and judge, Joanna Klink; an assortment of shorter readings by local poets, Kazim Ali, Michael Dumanis, Sarah Gridley, and Mary Quade; and a public reception in the gardens.

The contest's four winners will be announced at the event and asked to share their poems with the audience. Winning poems will be published on the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities website and winners will also receive special prize packages assembled by Cleveland Botanical Garden and the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities.