



POETRY PROMISE AWARD GUIDELINES

THE POETRY PROMISE AWARD was created by the Clark County Poet Laureate to acknowledge achievement by a poet who is a full time student. The award provides a selected poet:

- Recognition for achievement in the art of poetry.
- \$500 to support the study and writing of quality poetry.
- A public reading with prominent Clark County poets.

POETRY PROMISE AWARD ELIGIBILITY:

- Full-time student of age 15 and up
- Current resident of Clark County, Nevada

SUBMISSION ROUND 1 – DEADLINE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31ST 2016

Poets should submit 3-5 pages of original poetry by the deadline. 3-10 poets will be selected for the Semi-Final Round. Semi-finalists will be selected and informed by Monday, January 9th, 2017.

SUBMISSION SEMI-FINAL ROUND – IF SELECTED, DEADLINE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD 2017

Semi-finalists will then submit a manuscript of up to 15 pages of original poetry. It is acceptable to reuse poems from Round 1 in this submission. Please give your manuscript a working title. Semifinalists will also be asked to submit a Brief Statement on other poetry or poetic traditions that have influenced them or that they admire (1-2 pages).

ROUND 1 SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

- We encourage early submittals. Late submissions won't be considered. Submissions must arrive on or before December 31, especially if mailed.
- Please include a cover page with the following elements: your name, mailing address, email address. Please do not include your name on any page except the cover page.
- Poems should be typed in 12 pt. Times New Roman or Arial font.
- Email submissions as .doc, .docx, or .pdf files to : poetrypromiseinc@gmail.com
Mail submission to: Poetry Promise, Inc., 5771 Empress Garden Ct., Las Vegas, NV 89148
- We will use a "**blind**" submissions process. Personal information should not appear on the poetry pages.

POETRY PROMISE AWARD FINAL SELECTION – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH 2017

The Poetry Promise Board and Clark County Poet Laureate will choose the poet selected. This poet will receive a \$500.00 award intended to further their study and writing of poetry. Finally, with guidance from Poetry Promise, Inc., the selected poet will be invited to perform as the featured artist at a Poetry Promise Award Reading.

ABOUT THE POETRY PROMISE AWARD:

Inspiration for the award came from Clark County Poet Laureate Bruce Isaacson's reading of the life of Arthur Rimbaud:

Arthur Rimbaud was the most talented writer of his era, and was perhaps born with this gift. See the Rimbaud Chronology attached. A lack of local understanding and opportunities led to his abandoning poetry at the age of 21 to become an adventurer and gun runner in colonial Africa. He has since been claimed as a prime inspiration by literary movements from the French Symbolists, Surrealists, Existentialists, Beats, Punk movement, etc... My hope in establishing the award and local workshops is to provide constructive avenues of engagement. We hope to encourage literary understanding and achievement by promising writers.

QUESTIONS? You may call (702) 706-2383 or email poetrypromiseinc@gmail.com for further details.

A Brief Rimbaud Chronology



- 10/20/1854 Jean-Nicolas-Arthur Rimbaud born in Charleville, France, near Belgian border.
- 1860 Father deserts the family, never returns. Mother provides strict & intense study.
- 1870 Attending the College de Charleville, meets teacher George Izambard. 1st place in Concours Académique. Wins other academic prizes. Becomes mesmerized with the Parassian school of poets.
- 1870 Due to Prussian invasion, drops out of school and runs away to Paris several times. Lives on the streets among cafes. May have participated in uprisings of the Paris Commune. May have been raped by soldiers on the road to Paris during the Prussian occupation. Writes The Drunken Boat.
- 1871 Lives and conducts an affair with Paul Verlaine in Paris. Conflict with Verlaine's wife & her family. Lives scandalously in bohemian literary Paris.
- 1872 Verlaine & Rimbaud run away to Brussels, and then London. Verlaine returns to his wife & child, then runs away again with Rimbaud.
- 1873 After long debauchery & travels, and among Rimbaud's growing contempt for Verlaine's weakness, Rimbaud threatens to leave Verlaine and is shot in the wrist by him in Brussels. Verlaine arrested and serves two years. Rimbaud goes to his mother's farmhouse in Roche, writes and publishes Une Saison en Enfer, publishing it and sending a few copies to literary friends in Paris and to Verlaine. He is a scandal & snubbed by Parisian literateurs, and at the age of 19, his literary career ends. He burns his manuscripts, and together with those burned by Verlaine's wife, most of his works are destroyed.
- 1874-1879 Studies languages and begins a period of wandering across Europe. Travels solo to Paris, London, Germany, Italy (crossing the Alps on foot twice) and Holland. Attempts to reach Russia, but is robbed in Vienna. Enlists in the Dutch Army with hopes of reaching the Orient, and deserts in Java. Further travels—Hamburg, Sweden, Genoa, Alexandria, Suez, Cyprus.
- 1880-1890 Leaves Europe for Cyprus, and his friends never see him again. Manages a construction project in Cyprus, then lands in Aden, on the Arabian coast. Meets a trader, Bardey, goes to Abyssinia to manage their trading post. First European to reside in Harar, and publishes an account for the Geographic Society.
- 1886 Verlaine publishes an edition of Illuminations in Paris to great acclaim. Rimbaud is hailed as leader of the new Symbolist School, but assumed dead.
- 1887-1890 Harar overrun by Moslems, Rimbaud becomes a notable Islamist, teaching & diplomacy of local Koran. Falls in love with a Harari girl, takes her with him to Aden, and tries to teach her. With hopes of accumulating a fortune sufficient to allow him to marry and return to France, runs guns to King Menelik in Harar, but is fleeced by Menelik.
- 1891 A grapefruit-sized tumor appears in right leg; in great pain, and clutching small bags of gold, is carried down the mountain from Harar to Aden, where he takes a steamer to Marseilles for medical treatment. Doctors amputate his right leg. Returns to the family farm at Roche, where his sister Isabelle nurses him. Tumors return, and Isabelle arranges a deathbed conversion to the Catholic Church. In great pain, he still insists on return to Africa, and forces family to take him to Marseilles, where he dies November 10, 1891. He is, at this moment, the toast of literary Paris.