

Where did you hear about this competition?	Please tick
• Direct contact from Cannon Poets	
• <i>The Cannon's Mouth</i> Magazine	
• Cannon Poets Website	
• Orbis Competition Bulletin	
• Entry form from Public Library	
• Other [please specify]	

Cannon Poets

Established in 1983, Cannon Poets normally meet monthly in Moseley, Birmingham. During the Covid 19 pandemic they have continued to meet on Zoom. We currently meet on Zoom and in person at the Moseley Exchange on alternate months. If you would like to join in with the meetings, contact Cannon Poets Honorary Secretary Martin Underwood

martin@cannonpoets.org.uk

In normal times they also arrange workshops, readings, and produce a quarterly magazine, *The Cannon's Mouth*. To view some of the previous competition winners and see more information about Cannon Poets and its activities please see our website:

www.cannonpoets.org.uk

Enter and pay on line or post the completed entry form with poems and correct fee to:

**Cannon Poets,
22 Margaret Grove,
Harborne,
Birmingham
B17 9JH**

"I love the structure of the sonnet, the strength that comes from being neat and compact, but I also love its infinite variety. I welcome the various ways in which it's recently been used, and celebrate the freedom which has enabled it to retain the affections of so many poets. I look forward to the pleasure of sampling their work in the *Sonnet or Not* competition for 2022"

Paul Francis, this year's judge.

Sonnet or Not

Cannon Poets Poetry Competition 2022

Established in 1983, Cannon Poets are pleased to announce this year's popular **Sonnet or Not** Poetry competition. You are invited to write a poem or poems of just fourteen lines in length. You may choose any one of the traditional sonnet forms, or experiment with alternative 14 line forms perhaps using half rhyme, metarhyme or blank verse.

Prizes:

First Prize: **£500**; Second Prize: **£250**; Third Prize: **£150** and up to **10 Commended Prizes: £10**. All prize winners also receive a free one year subscription to *The Cannon's Mouth* in which the prizewinning poems will be published.

Special Offer:

Submit at least one poem with the correct fee to become eligible for one year subscription to our quarterly magazine, *The Cannon's Mouth*, discounted from the usual £15.00 to £13.00 [UK] or from £25 to £23 [outside UK].

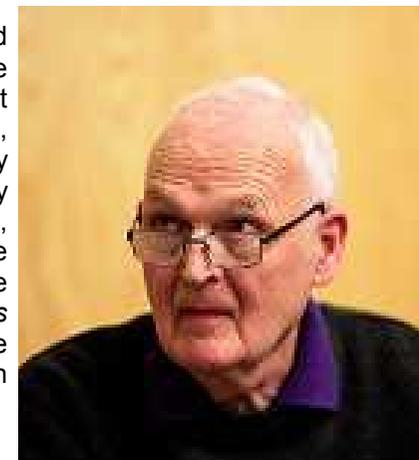
Entries:

An entry will consist of one 14 line poem. Please ensure that each entry has its own title. There is no limit to the number of entries providing the fees are paid. The entry fee is £5.00 for the first poem and £3.00 for each additional poem submitted. You can enter **by post** using the entry form or **on line**: go to: www.cannonpoets.org.uk then go to the **competitions** page and follow the instructions.

Please carefully read the Rules of Entry overleaf.

Sole Judge, Paul Francis. Paul is a retired teacher, who is active as a poet and performer in the West Midlands poetry scene. His most recent collection is *Rescue from the Dark* (Fair Acre Press, 2021), and he has written sonnets for over sixty years. He won the OUSS Sonnet of the Century competition in 2000, the Ware sonnet prize in 2001, and from 2010 he was three times running among the first three prizewinners of the Poems on the Move competition in Guernsey. His *Sonnets with notes* (Liberty Books) was published in 2019, and during the first lockdown of 2020 he posted a sonnet a day on his website, at

www.paulfranciswrites.co.uk



The closing date for entries is 31st October 2022

Sonnet or Not [2022] Poetry Competition

Rules of Entry

GENERAL

1. The closing date of the competition is midnight (UK time), **31st October 2022**.
2. The competition is open to anyone aged 18 or over at the time of entering.
3. International entries are welcome but all entries must be in English.
4. Under no circumstances can alterations be submitted once poems have been entered.
5. The judge's decision is final and neither the judge nor Cannon Poets will enter into any correspondence.
6. No person involved in the judging process is eligible to enter the Competition.
7. No entrant may win more than one prize.

POEMS

8. There is no limit on the number of entries a single entrant can make.
9. Entries will not be returned, so please keep a copy.
10. All entries are judged anonymously and the poet's name must not appear on the poem itself.
11. All poems must have a title and must have 14 lines (excluding title).
12. Entries can be on any subject.
13. Poems must be the original work of the entrant.
14. Entries must not have been published, self-published, published on a website or broadcast.

FEES

15. The first poem submitted costs **£5.00**. Subsequent entries in the same submission cost **£3.00** per poem.
16. Payments must be made in £ sterling. Entries accompanied by payment in a currency other than £ sterling will not be accepted.

ENTERING ON LINE

17. To enter on line go to www.cannonpoets.org.uk/competitions and follow the instructions.
18. Payment and submissions may be made directly from the site by Paypal or credit/debit card.
19. There is no facility for submitting by separate email.

ENTERING BY POST

20. Each poem should be on a separate sheet of A4 paper, typed or word processed in no smaller than 12 point typeface, and must include ONLY the poem and its title. Do not include your name.
21. A completed entry form and cheque [£ Stirling] for the correct fee must accompany all postal submissions. Photocopied entrance forms are acceptable.
22. Cheque/postal orders should be made payable to **Cannon Poets**. Please write your name and phone number on the back of cheques.
23. If you would like confirmation that your postal entry has been received and/or notification of results, please include a stamped addressed envelope/postcard with your entry. See bottom of entry form. Telephone or email confirmation of receipt is not available. If you supply your email address, you will be notified of the results.
24. The postal address is: **Cannon Poets, 22 Margaret Grove, Harborne, Birmingham. B17 9JH**

WINNERS

25. Prize winners will be notified by 31st December 2022
26. Authors of the winning poems, by entering the competition, grant Cannon Poets the right to publish and/or broadcast their poem for one year from date of presentation. The copyright of each poem remains with the author. Winning poems will be published in *The Cannon's Mouth* and later on the Cannon Poets website. Use of the poems elsewhere during this time is subject to acknowledgement of the poem's success in the Cannon Poets *Sonnet or Not* Competition. Copyright of each poem stays with the author.

Cannon Poets website: www.cannonpoets.org.uk

ENTRY FORM Cannon Poets 2022 Poetry Competition

First name	OFFICE USE ONLY
Surname or Family Name	Author Number
Contact Address	No. of poems submitted
Postcode	Amount paid £
Telephone (daytime)	Eligible
Email [for automatic notification of results]	Not Eligible [Reason]
Title of Poem	[£5 for first entry, £3.00 each additional poem]
	£ 5.00
	£
	£
	£
<i>The Cannon's Mouth</i> special offer subscription @ £13.00 [UK] or £23.00 [outside the UK]	£
TOTAL	£

Method of payment: Cheque [£ Sterling only] / Postal Order [payable to Cannon Poets] / Cash / Other [**tick one**]. **Do not send cash by post.**

I give consent for information supplied by me to be used for the purposes of Cannon Poets. I also understand that Cannon Poets will only use my information for the purpose for which it is supplied unless prior consent is obtained. I have read and understood Cannon Poets Privacy Statement. I confirm I am aged 18 years or over.

Signed: Date:

- Please **acknowledge my entry** by post [Endorsed SAE / postcard enclosed.]
- Please **supply a list of winning entries** by post [SAE enclosed.]