



Poetry Society of Texas—2025—Annual Summer Conference

“Together in Poetry”

Thursday—Saturday, July 17, 18, and 19, 2025

Springhill Suites, Denton, Texas, 1434 Centre Place Dr, Denton, TX

HOTEL INFORMATION

For Reservations call Springhill Suites – Denton at 940-383-4100 (mention “Poetry Society of Texas”)

or use this link: <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1743007896024&key=GRP&guestreslink2=true&app=resvlink>.

Book your group rate for Poetry Society of Texas Rate: \$109 or \$119/night (plus tax) **Reservation deadline: July 3, 2023!**

CONFERENCE SESSIONS INCLUDE:

Open Mic to begin it all; “Balancing the Concrete and the Ambiguous” by Corbett Buckley; Poetry Panel featuring Kathryn Merry, Roger Bussell, and Michael Guinn; Immanuel Garcia, winner of the 2025 Barney Contest; Critiquing Circle Panel; “How to Shape a Book” with Diane Glancy and Richard Kushmaul; “When Poets Meet” by Susan Maxwell Campbell and Christine Irving; reading by Bruce Bond; “Writing Prompts” workshop with Betty Roberts; Close Read Presentation with Q&A; “Persona Poetry” with Steve Sanders; plus the annual banquet, open mics lead by Michael Guinn, “You Be The Judge” Contest, Fun, Food, Fellowship, and a Bookroom (attendees buy and sell)!

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Registration open: Thursday afternoon 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm. Friday morning 7:45—8:30 am. Please complete the form below. Make checks **payable to DPA**. Send form and check to: Steve Sanders, 6709 Del Prado Avenue, Fort Worth, TX, 76133 (Email: steve.sanders@gmail.com). **Deadline for Conference and Meal Registration is Saturday, July 12th.** If paying via PayPal, send payment to [paypal.me/PSTexas](https://www.paypal.me/PSTexas) and please scan and email the registration form to steve.sanders@gmail.com.

REGISTRATION FORM: *“Together in Poetry”*

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Title of Poem Submitted for DPA Contest: _____

Registration Fee _____ @ \$35.00 per person = \$ _____

Friday Lunch _____ @ \$15.00 per person = \$ _____

Friday Night Banquet _____ @ \$30.00 per person = \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Check if you require:

Gluten Free _____

Dairy Free _____

Vegetarian _____

“Together In Poetry”

Thursday—Saturday July 17, 18, and 19—2025

Please join us on **Thursday**, July 17, at the Springhill Suites in Denton, Texas. Registration opens at 3:00 pm and goes till 5:30. Then, we kick off the Conference with an open mic, emceed by Michael Guinn. (Please note, poems must be family friendly!) Then, it’s off to get plenty of rest for the next day and a half of activities!

We start **Friday**, July 18, with a free breakfast for those registered at the hotel. At 8:30, Corbett Buchly will speak on “Balancing the Concrete with the Ambiguous.” At 9:30, Kathryn Merry, Roger Bussell, and Michael Guinn will provide us with what promises to be a very interesting and informative panel on poetry presentation. At 10:50, we will hear a reading from the winner of this year’s William D. Barney Memorial Chapbook Contest. Next, we’ll have the first half of the “You Be the Judge” contest readings from Bob Schinzel and Steve Sanders. Then, we break for lunch – a box lunch provided by a local sandwich shop (you will get to choose your menu in a later email) with entertainment from DeCee Cornish, an award-winning storyteller! After lunch, we hear the rest of the “You Be the Judge” entries and then roll right into a critiquing circle panel with James Neiswender, Beth Honeycutt, Christine Irving and Bob Schinzel. Be sure to bring a poem or two to critique! At 3:00, Diane Glancy and Richard Kushmaul will give us a presentation on “How to Shape a Book,” using actual experience from “PIECE,” Diane’s Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Contest winner that Richard edited. Christine Irving and Susan Maxwell Campbell will present on “When Poets Meet” at 4:00 and then we will hear from University of North Texas Regents Emeritus Professor Bruce Bond. After a break, where you can stroll through the bookroom or freshen up in your room, we have our banquet with a whole host of “extras” – the DPA contest winners will be announced, “You Be the Judge” winners announced, we conclude the Life Member Auction, hear our keynote speaker, Megan Willome, author of “The Joy of Poetry,” and hear from our entertainer for the evening, Doug Burr, a singer/songwriter of unusual resonance! You might think that would be all for this very busy day, but we don’t call it quits until another open mic with Michael Guinn!

On **Saturday**, we begin at 8:30 am with the PST Monthly Meeting and Councilor’s Meeting, including the announcement of Monthly Contest winners. At 9:30, we hear from Betty Roberts with “Writing Prompts,” a workshop where you will get the chance to share. Then, we’ll have a Close Read Presentation with Q&A from Paul Causey, Beth Honeycutt, and Kathryn Merry. We close out our presentations with a talk by Steve Sanders on “Persona Poetry” and then have a quick plenary session to close out the 2025 conference.

Bookroom: All attendees and speakers may place their books for sale in the bookroom. These books must be pre-registered with Richard Kushmaul by email (*before the 15th of July.*) Send a list of all books you intend to sell with: Author’s name, Title of the book, Number of books of each Title, and the Price for each Title (MS Word .docx file). Richard sets up spreadsheets for each author in advance. **Bring your books to the Bookroom already labeled and ready for sale.** Place a 3”X 3” removable Post-it-Note label (or something similar) inside the cover, with the following information listed: Author, Title, Price.

You Be the Judge Contest: A PST Tradition. A contest for attendees. In an effort to streamline this contest, the line length has been reduced to **15 lines**, plus title. The line width is 60 characters. These poems will be read aloud then the attendees vote for the winners. Place your entry poem in a folder at registration.

DPA “When Poets Meet” Contest: Open NOW, this is a special contest sponsored by Christine Irving and Susan Maxwell Campbell. Information has gone out and you should submit your entry with your conference registration. **Please fill in the title of the poem you are submitting:** _____

Life Member Raffle: A Friday Night Tradition. Prizes will be donated by PST Chapters and individuals. The proceeds help fund PST’s Life Memberships. Prizes will be on display in the bookroom.

PayPal Payments: Payments for the conference can be made on-line if you have a PayPal account.