Lisa Thomas ePoetry Prize
Autumn 2020
Regulations

1 The South West Division Lisa Thomas ePoetry Prize Autumn 2020 will take the form of an electronic competition in which anyone with a connection with mental health will be invited to submit an unpublished poem with a theme related to any aspect of mental health. All entrants must reside in the geographical region of the Royal College of Psychiatrists South West Division (which includes the Channel Islands, counties of Gloucestershire, South Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Bristol, North Somerset, Somerset, Bath and North East Somerset, Devon, Cornwall and part of Dorset).

2 All entrants must have some connection with mental health i.e. people who use mental health services or their family/friends, professionals providing care, people working in the mental health sector, i.e. ward clerks, secretaries, cleaners, etc.

3 Entries are restricted to a maximum of two poems per entrant and each should be produced on one sheet of A4, with a maximum of 40 lines (including title).

4 All entries should be accompanied by a completed entry form and College Consent form for filming and photography, which should be emailed to southwest@rcpsych.ac.uk by the closing date of Friday 25 September 2020. Postal entries will not be accepted.

5 There will be two prizes, in the form of a sum of money, which will be reviewed by the Division’s Executive Committee from time to time:

   First prize - £100     Second prize - £50

6 The prizes will be awarded only if, in the opinion of the judges, at least one entry is of a sufficient standard to merit a prize.

7 Entries will be assessed by a panel of three judges, one of whom will be a member of the Executive Committee.

8 The judges’ views will be final. The judges will not be available for correspondence with entrants on any subject related to the assessment of entries.

9 The aim of the prize is to raise awareness of and stimulate interest in mental health issues amongst local communities using a non-stigmatising and inclusive medium.

10 Only the winners will be notified.

11 The prize will be presented virtually at the Autumn Biannual Meeting on 13 November 2020. Prize winners will be invited to pre-record a recital of their poem or give permission for a member of the South West Division team to record a recital of the winning poem on their behalf, for inclusion at the virtual Autumn Biannual Meeting.

12 The poems of the winners will be published on the Royal College of Psychiatrists website and in the Programme and Abstracts booklet for the Autumn Biannual Meeting.

South West Division Office: South West Division team, Royal College of Psychiatrists
Poetry Prize Officer: Dr Paul Winterbottom, Consultant Psychiatrist