JANE MARTIN POETRY PRIZE

2022

About the Jane Martin Poetry Prize

Girton College is delighted to invite entries for the 2022 Jane Martin Poetry Prize. Now in its 12th year, the prize is a key part of the College's support for poetry and will be of interest to all those who are serious about literary excellence.

The competition will be judged by experts drawn from across the literary world and academia. We are thrilled that this year the panel will include Parwana Fayyaz and Claudine Toutoungi.

Building on the success of previous years, the 2022 winner will receive not just a cash prize of £700, but the opportunity to give a reading (live or pre-recorded) at a virtual celebratory event, at which the prize will be awarded. There will also be a second cash prize of £300.

About Girton College

Girton is a college of the University of Cambridge. Established in 1869 on the principles of equality and diversity, Girton played a leading role in opening higher education to women. Fully mixed for over 30 years, the College now prides itself on offering the highest quality of learning to all, regardless of background. Girton has contributed to the education and shared in the lives of many celebrated authors and has a strong tradition of supporting creative writing. Alumni include Gwyneth Lewis (First National poet of Wales), Wendy Holden (*School for Husbands, Marrying Up*) and Emma Donoghue (*Room, the Woman Who Gave Birth to Rabbits*).

The Panel

The shortlisted entries for the 2022 Jane Martin Poetry Prize will be judged by an eminent panel, led by:

Parwana Fayyaz is an Afghan writer and a scholar of medieval Persian poetry. Born in Kabul, she was raised in Pakistan. After finishing high school in Kabul, she enrolled in an English language immersion program and subsequently began her undergraduate studies in Chittagong, Bangladesh. She transferred to Stanford University and earned both her B.A. in 2015, with a major in Comparative Literature (with Honors) and a minor in Creative Writing (Poetry), and an M.A. in Religious Studies in 2016. She then moved to Cambridge University to pursue a PhD in Persian Studies at Trinity College and took up a Research Fellowship as the Carmen Blacker Fellow at Peterhouse, Cambridge University in October 2020. Her debut collection, *Forty Names*, was published in 2021 by Carcanet Press, and it was named A New Statesman Book of the Year and A White Review Book of the Year.



Claudine Toutoungi poetry collections, published by Carcanet Press, are Smoothie (2017) and Two Tongues (2020), which won the 2021 Ledbury Munthe Poetry Prize. Her poems have appeared in Poetry, The Poetry Review, PN Review, The Guardian, The New Statesman, The Spectator, Poetry Ireland Review, Poetry London, The Financial Times and elsewhere. Claudine's plays Bit Part and Slipping ran at the Stephen Joseph Theatre, and Slipping featured in New York's Lark Play Centre's HotINK series and was a Best Play Finalist in the 2015 Audio Drama Awards. She has written multiple audio dramas for BBC Radio including Deliverers, This Is Your Country Now Too: Mira, seasons of Home Front, the comedy drama series The Inheritors, and several dramatizations. As a performer, her contributions to festivals and events across the UK include Tongue Fu, Kendal Poetry Festival and Shubbak at the National Theatre River Stage. She has been featured on BBC Radio 4's Front Row, In Touch and Poetry Please.



About Jane Martin

The Prize is named in memory of Jane Martin. Jane studied Classics at Girton, graduating in 1981. She retained an affection for the College and felt strong bonds with those who had taught and supported her. Jane had always taken great pleasure in writing. On her passing, her father chose to endow a national prize based at Girton for outstanding poetry, to be named after her.

How to enter

Entry rules for the 2022 Jane Martin Poetry Prize are:

- Entrants must be resident in the UK and (on February 1st 2022) be between 18 and 30 years of age.
- Valid entries will be written in English and consist of a maximum of two poems of no more than two sides of A4 in (total) length.
- There is no fee for submissions but entries are limited to two poems per person per year, submitted as one entry.
- The judges may, at their discretion, request further samples of work from short-listed candidates.
- The first prize for the winning poet is £700 and £300 for the second prize, though the panel reserves the right to distribute this.
- 6. Entries will be judged anonymously.
- 7. Previous winners are not permitted to enter again.

Entries will be submitted on-line as one PDF document here:

https://app.casc.cam.ac.uk/fas_live/jmp22.aspx

If there are any problems contact poetryprize@girton.cam.ac.uk

- 8. There is a shortlisting process undertaken by Girton's Fellows in English.
- 9. We regret that copies of poetry can not be returned.
- Poems submitted must not have been previously published.
- The prize will open on 10th February 2022 and close at noon on 11th March 2022. The winner will be notified by mid April.
- Girton College may include work from the winning entry in its Annual Review and other college publications/media.

