



# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## JANUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER

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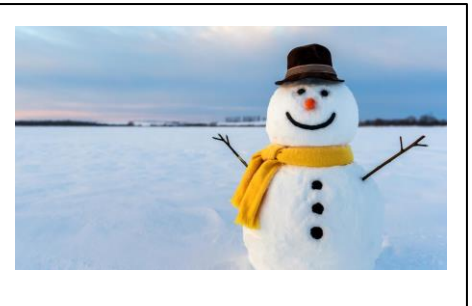
**Kudos to Our Members!**

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### **Happy New Year!**



# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Poets,

This past month we've all been preoccupied with Chanukah festivities – I hope you all enjoyed them with your families as I did! So it was a quiet month for Voices Israel activities. All the same, a few things have been happening:

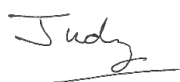
In mid-December we opened the submission period for our annual Anthology. Although that was only a couple of weeks ago, we already have quite a few entries. The submission period ends on March 15<sup>th</sup> so we all have time to choose our three best poems to send in. Remember that the *only* way to submit is online via Submittable – by clicking the Submit button at the bottom of the “Submitting To The Anthology” page of our website (<https://www.voicesisrael.com/submitting-to-the-anthology>).

We had hoped to have the results of the Reuben Rose competition in time for the start of the Anthology submission period, so that people would know which poems had not been placed in the Reuben Rose and were therefore available for possible submission to the Anthology. We didn't quite manage that time schedule: the competition administrator, Mark Levinson, estimates that results may possibly be available by the time you all read this, but we may have to wait a few more days for them. Ah well, we *do* have till mid-March to submit to the Anthology.

And finally on the theme of competitions and submissions: we're about halfway through the submission period for the Bar Sagi Young Poets Prize. Our new competition administrator, Michele Bustin, has been networking hard to “spread the word” among her many contacts, and we have high hopes that this year we'll get considerably more entries than we did last year. So far, however, it's more like “a few more” -- so we still need your help! If you know any English teachers – your children's or grandchildren's; former or current colleagues; friends -- please do suggest it to them. Our announcement and the guidelines can be downloaded from the Voices Israel website (<https://www.voicesisrael.com/bar-sagi-prize>).

Following our very successful workshop in Haifa on November 24<sup>th</sup>, attendees have been busy editing and sending in the poems started at the workshop, for inclusion in the chapbook. The time period for doing so recently ended, and I'm working on production of the chapbook which I hope to finish soon. As usual for face-to-face workshops, it will be printed and offered for sale to workshop attendees and other members, probably (unless printing prices have risen drastically since we last did this) at the same subsidized price as the past few chapbooks: 20 NIS + postage if mailed. Hopefully it will be printed and ready by the end of January or early February.

Looking ahead to this coming year: our Workshop Coordinator, Elana Dorfman, is dreaming up more workshops in different venues. If you have a suggestion for a subject you'd like a presentation on, or one you yourself could give a presentation on, or a presenter (member or not) whom you'd like us to invite to give one – please contact Elana ([elanado@gmail.com](mailto:elanado@gmail.com)).



Judy Koren,

President, Voices Israel.

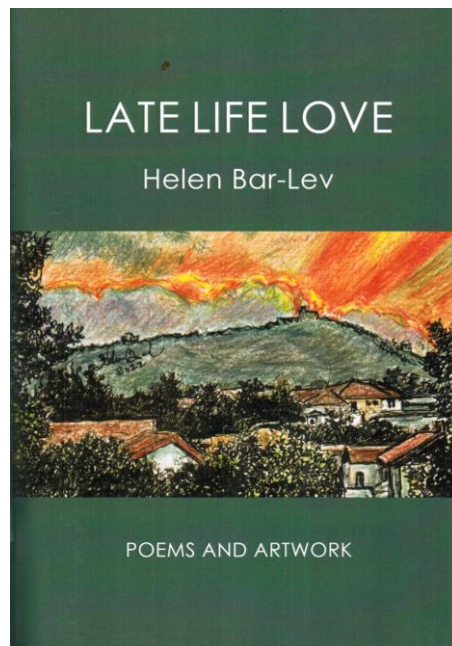
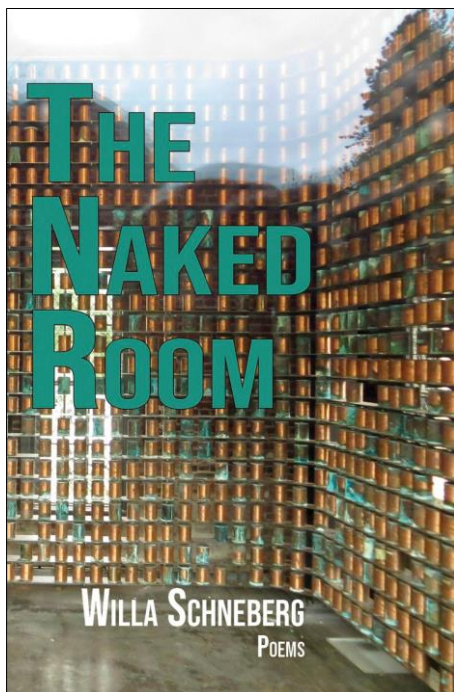
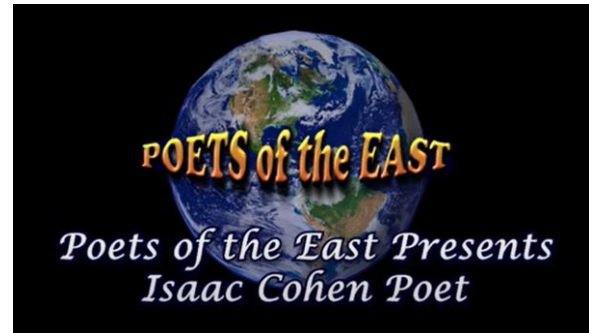
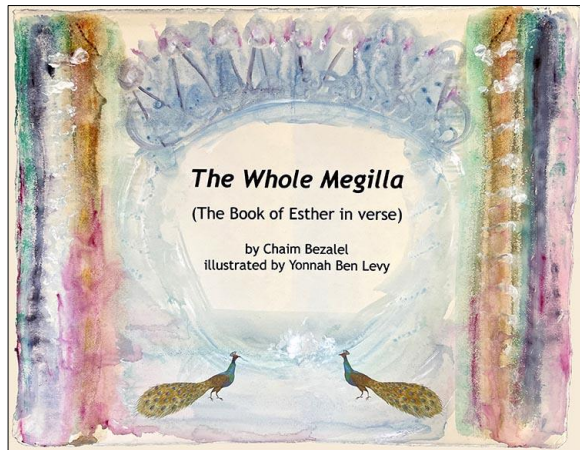


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## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS

- To – **Ada Aharoni**, who was awarded the Golden Crown of World Poets Award (<https://iflac.wordpress.com/2022/12/24/ada-aharoni-with-her-golden-crown-of-world-poets-award-24-12-22/>)
- To – **Helen Bar-Lev**, whose book *Late Life Love* (see December 2022 Newsletter, p. 6) is now available on Amazon at [www.amazon.com/dp/1733028544/](http://www.amazon.com/dp/1733028544/)
- To – **Chaim Bezalel** and **Yonnah Ben Levy**, whose book *The Whole Megilla: The Book of Esther in Verse*, written by Chaim and illustrated by Yonnah, will be published by Dekel Press in January. Catch a preview at <https://dekelpress.com/>.
- To – **Wendy Blumfield**, whose essay “A sprat to catch a mackerel” was published in *The Jerusalem Post* on December 18, 2022. The same essay, with a different title, was published online at [www.jpost.com/business-and-innovation/all-news/article-725121](http://www.jpost.com/business-and-innovation/all-news/article-725121).
- To – **Sandra Lee Braude**, whose essay “Is Israel an apartheid state?” was published in *The Jerusalem Report* on December 5, 2022.
- To – **Isaac Cohen**, who was the guest for a one-hour conversation and reading on *Poets of the East* at <https://youtu.be/gyHuS8mz7sM>
- To – **Ruth Fogelman**, whose poem “Hanuka Lights” was published on the website of *The Deronda Review* at [www.derondareview.org/hanukalights.htm](http://www.derondareview.org/hanukalights.htm)
- To – **Ricky Rapoport Friesem**, whose children’s book *Ruby Osse Balagan* has been published in Hebrew by Niv Publishers. The 24-page picture book was written by Ricky in English, translated into Hebrew by Hanna Kahane, and illustrated by Harriet Goitein. Told in rhyme and suitable for ages 3 to 6, the story follows the adventures of a mischievous crow, who can’t find any playmates, so he makes up a game that has the whole town talking, and even celebrating. The digital and hard-copy versions of the book are available at <https://nivbook.co.il/product/%d7%a8%d7%95%d7%91%d7%99-%d7%a2%d7%95%d7%a9%d7%94-%d7%91%d7%9c%d7%92%d7%9f/>.
- To – **Paul Rabinowitz**, whose poem “Vacations” was published in *Evening Street Review* at <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b57b6b28f51303b18aa82cc/t/6395e8c8fe0a6541b10012a1/1670768840896/EVENING+STREET+REVIEW.pdf>
- To – **Willa Schneberg**, whose new book *The Naked Room* will be published by Broadstone Books on January 15. This collection of poems draws on Willa’s experiences as a therapist to take us on a journey through the disturbing history of psychotherapy and the treatment of mental illness, and into the current state of the art and state of the world. The book can be pre-ordered at <https://www.broadstonebooks.com/shop/p/the-naked-room-poetry-by-willa-schneberg>.

## VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH



## SUBMISSIONS TO THE 2023 VOICES ISRAEL ANTHOLOGY

The Voices Israel Group of Poets in English publishes an annual anthology of poetry. Submissions to the 2023 edition of the anthology — Volume 49 — are now open and will remain open until March 15, 2023. This volume will be prepared under the supervision of editor-in-chief Dina Jehuda and editors Eli Ben-Joseph, Wendy Blumfield, and Elana Dorfman. Everybody — Voices members and non-members alike — may submit up to three poems for consideration. Poems may be on any topic, but may not exceed 41 lines including stanza breaks. There is no fee for submitting. Full guidelines may be found on our website at [www.voicesisrael.com/submitting-to-the-anthology](http://www.voicesisrael.com/submitting-to-the-anthology).

# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## THE BAR SAGI YOUNG POETS PRIZE

**The fourth Bar Sagi Young Poets Prize will remain open until the end of February 2023.**

Bar Sagi was a young Israeli poet who wrote in English. Born in Rehovot in 2001, she lived from age five to eleven with her parents in the United States and English became her preferred language. Sadly, on her return to Israel she was diagnosed with bone cancer, and after putting up a courageous and protracted battle, finally succumbed in 2017 after over four years, before reaching her sixteenth birthday.

During these last years, Bar wrote 25 poems which documented her journey with illness and hope and her remarkable life force. These poems, written in her own hand-illustrated book entitled "See Me Soar and Spread My Wings," reflect her many-sided character and unusually mature understanding. The publishing house Gvanim has published them in a book, illustrated with original water-colourings mostly by Ellie Makar-Limanov with others by Anna Melnikov (available from Steimatsky). In addition, the Israeli Education Ministry has selected six of them to be taught in Israeli schools: these can be freely viewed and the file downloaded at

[https://meyda.education.gov.il/files/Pop/0files/english/Chativat-Beynayim/Selected\\_Poems\\_of\\_Bar\\_Sagi.pdf](https://meyda.education.gov.il/files/Pop/0files/english/Chativat-Beynayim/Selected_Poems_of_Bar_Sagi.pdf).

Bar's family decided to endow a prize in her name, to preserve her memory and to encourage other young poets. Voices Israel is delighted to partner with them in this initiative, and to help encourage the voices of the young in Israel.

**The competition is open to Israelis aged 12 to 19 when the poem was written.**

**Full submission rules and guidelines are at [www.voicesisrael.com/bar-sagi-prize-guidelines](http://www.voicesisrael.com/bar-sagi-prize-guidelines).**

**The competition is free to enter, and awards three cash prizes** (First Prize: 400 NIS; Second Prize: 250 NIS; Third Prize: 100 NIS) plus a variable number of Honorable Mentions at the judges' discretion. The winning poems, and Honorable Mention poems if there are any, will be published in the annual Voices Israel anthology.

**The fourth Bar Sagi Young Poets Prize opened for submissions on November 15, 2022, and will remain open until the end of February 2023.**

The Fourth Bar Sagi Prize (2022-2023 competition)

Administrator: Michele Bustin

Judges: Susan Bell, Itamar Blumfield, Amiel Schotz

**Please spread the word.** If you know any English teachers, please tell them about the Bar Sagi Young Poets Prize. If you know any parents, grandparents, aunts, or uncles, tell them about it too. And of course, if you know any young poets, you absolutely must tell them about it. Voices members: we are counting on your help!

## A SPECIAL OFFER FROM JOHNMICHAEL SIMON

Johnmichael Simon is offering his chapbook design services to Voices Israel members and friends.

If you would like to possess a beautifully presented and published collection of your own favorite poems, please contact Johnmichael for details of this special offer at [johnmichaelsimon@gmail.com](mailto:johnmichaelsimon@gmail.com).

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## CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

**failed haiku – a journal of English Senryu** They publish senryu, haibun, haiga, rengay, sequences, and any other related form that is senryu based. Currently, they are reading submissions on the ‘new beginnings’ theme (up to 5 poems); they want senryu and haiga, but they do not want sequences and rengay for the themed call. Their reading period is 10th to 25th every month. Details at <https://failedhaiku.com/submissions-guidelines/>.

**Southword: New International Writing** is a print literary journal published twice a year by the Munster Literature Centre (Ireland). This well-regarded magazine is currently open for poetry through end of February (send up to 4 poems), and will open for prose submissions in January. They pay £40 per poem and £250 for short stories. The deadline for poetry submissions is 28 February 2023. Details at <https://munsterlit.ie/southword/> and <https://southword.submittable.com/submit>.

**The Malahat Review** was established in 1967 and is one of Canada’s leading literary journals. They publish contemporary Canadian and international works of poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction. They are open to submissions from international writers during January and February, May through July, and November. Read the submission guidelines carefully: [www.malahatreview.ca/submission\\_guidelines.html](http://www.malahatreview.ca/submission_guidelines.html).

**Neologism Poetry Journal** wants poems that “feel good leaving the mouth, use original or interesting language skillfully, and use visual spacing, narrative pacing, consistent meter, or any combination of these to make the reading capture the reader. Formal poetry is welcome, as is writing with tinges of the dreamlike or unreal.” Submit up to 5 poems. Continuous schedule: “Submissions are considered for the month in which they are received up until two days before the end of the month.” Details at [www.neologismpoetry.com/submissions/](http://www.neologismpoetry.com/submissions/).

### **The Threepenny Review**

This respected literary magazine will be open for submissions during January to April 2023. They accept poetry (up to five poems), fiction, nonfiction, and Table Talk pieces. They accept submissions through their online submission system and also by mail. Pay is \$200 per poem or Table Talk piece; \$400 for fiction and nonfiction. Details at [www.threepennyreview.com/submissions.html](http://www.threepennyreview.com/submissions.html).

**Acumen** is an award-winning poetry journal. They publish new poetry and poetry translations, alongside articles, debate, comment and reviews of recent poetry publications. Send up to six poems, or an essay. Details at [www.acumen-poetry.co.uk/submissions/](http://www.acumen-poetry.co.uk/submissions/).

**Ninth Letter** is a very well-regarded magazine published semi-annually in print at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. “We are interested in prose and poetry that experiment with form, narrative, and nontraditional subject matter, as well as more traditional literary work.” It is open for submissions until Feb 28, 2023. Submissions via Submittable: \$3 per submission (3 to 6 poems). Read carefully the guidelines at [www.ninthletter.com/journal/submit](http://www.ninthletter.com/journal/submit).

**The Lascaux Review**, an online magazine plus an annual print edition; wants “accessible fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction of literary quality, as well as essays on the craft and business of writing.” Submit up to five poems at a time in one document. Submissions are read year round. Accepted pieces are published on a rolling basis. Submission is free Payment varies. Full guidelines are at <https://lascauxreview.com/submissions/>

**The Paris Review** is a very well regarded print publication founded in 1953. Accepts submissions twice yearly. They publish poetry and fiction, as well as interviews. Open for poetry submissions from Jan. 1, 2023 “until we reach capacity” (which, given its reputation, may not take long; at latest closes Jan. 31st). Guidelines and submission at [www.theparisreview.org/about/submissions](http://www.theparisreview.org/about/submissions).

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