



# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## AUGUST 2022 NEWSLETTER

Website address: [www.voicesisrael.com](http://www.voicesisrael.com)

Amuta No. 58-019-703-6

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### **IN THIS ISSUE:**

**President's Letter**

**August Meeting Dates**

**Welcome New Members**

**Kudos to Our Members!**

**Help Wanted**

**Reuben Rose Competition**

**Helen Bar-Lev Exhibition**

**Calls for Submissions**

### **Summertime . . .**



. . . and the living . . .



. . . is easy.



# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Poets,

The summer months are a time for relaxation and vacations, but we are already busy with Voices Israel activities for the coming year:

In mid-July **the Reuben Rose Competition opened for submissions** and will remain open till October 15<sup>th</sup>. Do remember to enter your best poems for the chance to win one of the prizes or gain an Honorable Mention!

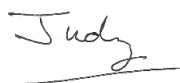
Those of you who ordered the printed chapbook from the Netanya Residential Workshop should have received it by now: it was mailed out a couple of weeks ago. If not – it's in the mail! I have had several notes of appreciation regarding it; it is indeed, in my admittedly prejudiced opinion, a very pretty and elegant booklet and as usual the quality of many of the poems is amazing. The price was, as estimated, 20 NIS + 5 NIS postage, and we do still have a few copies available.

Next in line for publication is **the 2022 Anthology, which is currently at the printer's**. It should be ready within a couple of weeks, so hopefully we can distribute it around mid-August. Many thanks to everyone concerned – especially our Editor, Dina, and Chanita who has the onerous job of distributing it. Also to Avril Meallem, who was unable to continue to produce it this year but provided me with her templates, which made it easy for me to do so in her stead. We're planning to hold the launch event at the Karaoke Bar in Netanya as usual, in the second half of October, after Sukkot. We won't manage to do so in September because we need to wait until everyone has received their copy – which could take till late September, too close to the High Holidays.

We're starting to plan the next Bar Sagi competition, with the same cash prizes and judges as last year. We do need to publicize by personal contact – the mass mailings of our announcement to teachers by the Ministry of Education, and publication of it via the various Anglo societies, have so far brought us very few entrants, while persuading even just one high-school English teacher to encourage their students to write for the competition, results in many more. So if anyone knows 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 website (<https://www.voicesisrael.com/bar-sagi-prize>) and I'll be happy to email them to anyone who requests (to [president.voices@gmail.com](mailto:president.voices@gmail.com)).

We're planning a workshop for November, in Haifa, a few weeks after the Anthology launch. It will be given by two of our Haifa members. We'll put out full details as soon as we have them!

Reminder: Wendy Blumfield is stepping down from her position as Publicity Officer at the next AGM and we are looking for someone to take over from her. Please consider doing so – anyone interested, please email me at [president.voices@gmail.com](mailto:president.voices@gmail.com) and/or Wendy at [blumfieldwendy@gmail.com](mailto:blumfieldwendy@gmail.com). Wendy will be happy to explain what she does and provide a list of contacts. If nobody volunteers, we will have no Publicity Officer, to the detriment of Voices Israel.



Judy Koren, President, Voices Israel.

# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## AUGUST 2022 MEETING DATES, TIMES AND PLACES

<p><b>SOUTHERN</b></p> <p>Meeting via Zoom Thursday, August 11 at 17:00 - 19:00</p> <p>Coordinator: Miriam Green Tel: 05-738-8640</p> <p><a href="mailto:miriamsgreen@gmail.com">miriamsgreen@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>TEL AVIV</b></p> <p>Meeting via Zoom Thursday, August 18 at 7:00 PM</p> <p>Coordinator: Mark Levinson Mobile: 054-444-8438</p> <p><a href="mailto:nosnivel@netvision.net.il">nosnivel@netvision.net.il</a></p>	<p><b>JERUSALEM</b></p> <p>Meeting via Zoom Thursday, August 25 at 7:00 PM</p> <p>Coordinator: Avril Meallem Tel: 02-567-0998</p> <p><a href="mailto:aemeallem@gmail.com">aemeallem@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>WESTERN GALILEE</b></p> <p>No meetings scheduled. Contact Phyllsie for details.</p> <p>Coordinator: Phyllsie Gross Mobile: 052-874-6880</p> <p><a href="mailto:phyllsie@hotmail.com">phyllsie@hotmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>HAIFA</b></p> <p>In-person meeting Tuesday, August 16, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Edit Gavriely</p> <p>Contact Wendy Blumfield for details</p> <p>Coordinator: Wendy Blumfield Tel: 04-837-6820 Mobile: 054-524-0412</p> <p><a href="mailto:blumfieldwendy@gmail.com">blumfieldwendy@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>NETANYA/SHARON</b></p> <p>Monday, 15 August at 7:00 PM at Susan Olsburgh's home</p> <p>2/6 Zalman Shazar, 3rd floor Ramat Poleg</p> <p>Coordinator: Susan Olsburgh Mobile: 054-919-3575</p> <p><a href="mailto:olsburgh.susan@gmail.com">olsburgh.susan@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>UPPER GALILEE</b></p> <p>Summer vacation! See you in September!</p> <p>Coordinator: Reuven Goldfarb Tel: 04-697-4105 Mobile: 058-414-0262</p> <p><a href="mailto:poetsprogress@gmail.com">poetsprogress@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>GLOBAL GROUP</b></p> <p>Meeting via Zoom Wednesday, August 17 at 19:00 (Israel time)</p> <p>Coordinator: Shoshana Kent Mobile: 052-808-9365</p> <p><a href="mailto:Y2nosh@netvision.net.il">Y2nosh@netvision.net.il</a></p>

# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Voices Israel is pleased to extend a warm welcome to our new members:

– **Elana Wolff**, Ontario, Canada

– **Robert Dashevsky**, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS

To – **Ann Bar-Dov**, whose essay “Library Memories” won First Place in the 2021 Brooklyn Non-Fiction Prize Competition. Ann read from her essay on July 24th, 2022, along with eleven other participants in the competition. She was selected as the winner for her compelling story which depicted her very early memories of trying to gain membership in a Brooklyn Public Library branch at the age of four and her love for reading fostered in the libraries of Brooklyn.

<http://brooklynnonfiction.blogspot.com/2022/07/the-winner-of-2021-brooklyn-non-fiction.html>

To – **Helen Bar-Lev**, who had two stories — “Bell Telephone vs. The Spielvogels” and “An Incident in Lifta” — published in the July issue of *ESRA Magazine*, and who had her poem “Tiberias” and her painting “Tiberias at night” included in the “Lights for the City” project under the auspices of *Arte Città Amica* and *Immagine & Poesia*.

<https://magazine.esra.org.il/esramagazine/look-into-it/latest-esramagazine/entry/bell-telephone-vs-the-spielvogels.html>

<https://magazine.esra.org.il/esramagazine/look-into-it/latest-esramagazine/entry/an-incident-in-lifta.html>

<https://lightsforthecity.jimdofree.com/poems-haiku-2/>

To – **Isaac Cohen**, whose poem “The Path of Love” was selected for publication in the *Touch of Japan* anthology and on the Eastern Pearl website. <https://istocnibiser.wixsite.com/ibis/konkurs-open-call>

To – **Judy Koren**, whose poem “Remember His Name?” was chosen as a Featured Poem for the August issue of *Better Than Starbucks* and was published in the print and e-book versions of that magazine as well as in the online version at

<https://www.betterthanstarbucks.org/>.

To – **Paul Rabinowitz**, whose short story “On the Eighth Day” appears in the summer edition of *October Hill Magazine*. You can read the full story at [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pjgnc9jz6D7UPv1ADLzG-s\\_lkXfiu8B9/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pjgnc9jz6D7UPv1ADLzG-s_lkXfiu8B9/view).

To – **Ricky Rapoport Friesem**, who read and discussed her poetry as an honored guest in the Limmud Ottawa “Northern Poetry” series hosted by Seymour Mayne. The entire event is at <https://youtu.be/mUjqw9omvM>.

To – **Susan Olsburgh**, whose poem “Triangle of Hope” is being used promotionally on Hadassah Hospital's UK support site on Facebook at

[www.facebook.com/hadassahuk/posts/pfbid02bgQTboJf2qeF1R4TyjvMEtPffrUHs6hBGPZyKxZ7NACxFf7djc4GzXxyDriUJRFI](http://www.facebook.com/hadassahuk/posts/pfbid02bgQTboJf2qeF1R4TyjvMEtPffrUHs6hBGPZyKxZ7NACxFf7djc4GzXxyDriUJRFI).

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## HELP WANTED: PUBLICITY OFFICER (NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY)

Wendy Blumfield has announced her intention to retire from the position of Publicity Officer of Voices Israel as of the next AGM in Spring 2023. It is an important position: the Publicity Officer is responsible for letting the world know who we are and what we do. If you are interested in taking on this vital role, please email Judy Koren at [president.voices@gmail.com](mailto:president.voices@gmail.com) and/or Wendy at [blumfieldwendy@gmail.com](mailto:blumfieldwendy@gmail.com). Wendy will be happy to explain what she does and provide a list of contacts. No prior experience necessary. Compensation consists of the gratitude and esteem of your peers.

## 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).

# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## THE REUBEN ROSE COMPETITION IS NOW OPEN!

Voices Israel holds an annual competition in memory of Reuben Rose, one of the founders of the Voices Israel Group of Poets. Submissions are invited from English-language poets throughout the world and are judged by a panel of three independent judges.

First prize in the competition is US\$500, second prize is US\$150, and third prize is US\$50. Ten honorable mentions are awarded as well. All prize winners and honorable mentions will be published in print in the Voices Israel Anthology, and online on the Voices Israel website.

The 2022 competition is **now open for submissions** and will remain open until October 15, 2022.

The judges for the 2022 competition are:

- Yiskah Rosenfeld – First Prize winner, 2021
- Reuven Goldfarb – Honorable Mention, 2021
- Yehoshua November – Acclaimed American poet, Overseas Judge for 2022.

### Submission Procedure

Anyone, anywhere may submit to the competition. Poems may be on any topic but must be in English and must be previously unpublished, in print or online, and must remain unpublished until the list of winners is e-mailed to the entrants. (Inclusion in the monthly Voices Israel newsletter or in a chapbook from a Voices Israel workshop is not considered publication.)

Line limit per poem is 41 lines, including any stanza breaks, dedication, epigraph, etc., but not including the title. Lines that are too long to fit on one page-line will be counted as two lines. Challenging, humorous, and/or eccentric poetry is welcome, but typographical tricks are discouraged and any illustrations will be discarded.

Poems are judged anonymously - without the poets' names. Please make sure that your name appears only on the Submission page, **not** anywhere in the file you send or in the file's name.

No poet may win more than one prize or Honorable Mention in the same year's competition — i.e. among the thirteen winners, no poet will be included more than once.

Voices Israel claims a non-exclusive license to publish and republish the winning poems and honorable mentions in all media, while the poet retains copyright and is free to publish and republish after the winners are announced.

Entry fees are:

US\$6.00 for 1 poem

US\$12.00 for 3 poems

US\$18.00 for 6 poems.

All poems must be submitted and entry fees paid via the Submittable online submissions service at

<https://voicesisrael.submittable.com/submit>. If you find you are unable to use the Submittable website, please write to [reubenrosepoetrycompetition@gmail.com](mailto:reubenrosepoetrycompetition@gmail.com).

# VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

## IMPRESSIONS FROM THE HELEN BAR-LEV EXHIBITION IN KARMIEL (EXTENDED UNTIL AUGUST 25TH!)



Helen in the middle.



Helen speaking, Phyllis Gross listening.


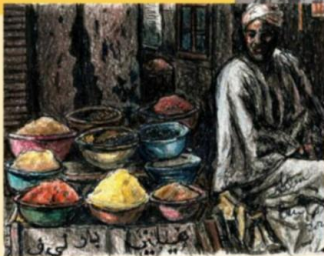
Showing July 10th to July 31st

### ART EXHIBITION

Helen Bar-Lev, Retrospective Exhibition in honor of her 80th birthday, at Hechal HaTarbut, Karmiel.

**Visiting hours:**  
Sunday through Thursday from 09:00 – 20:00.

**Official opening:**  
Opening July 12th from 17:00 – 19:00.

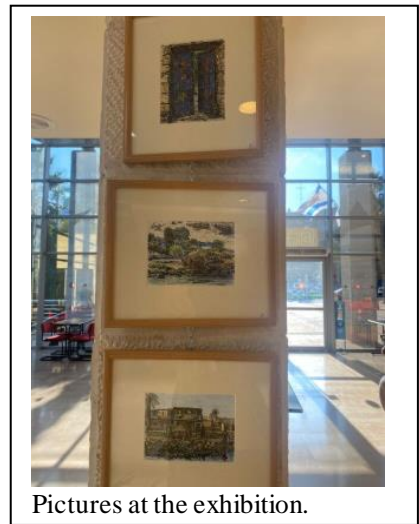


'Abu Tor, Jerusalem' – 1979. Watercolor with brush and dip pen. 38cm x 50cm

'Man selling spices in the Aswan market, Egypt.' – Colored pencils with ink. 11cm x 15cm



Shoshana Kent admires the art.



Pictures at the exhibition.

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## CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

**Winning Writers** is an excellent resource for literary contests. In addition to sponsoring its own contests, including the Tom Howard/Margaret Reid Poetry Contest and the Wergle Flomp Humor Poetry Contest, it publishes a free monthly newsletter with timely information on hundreds of prose and poetry contests with no entry fees. Each contest description gives you editor Jendi Reiter's assessment of the "heft" of the contest, the kind of work most likely to win a prize, deadline for submission, and all the information you need to enter. For more information on Winning Writers, and to subscribe to their free monthly email newsletter, go to <https://winningwriters.com/>.

**The Tom Howard/Margaret Reid Poetry Contest**, as aforementioned, is sponsored by Winning Writers. It awards two grand prizes — the Tom Howard Prize of \$3,000 for a poem in any style or genre, and the Margaret Reid Prize of \$3,000 for a poem that rhymes or has a traditional style — plus ten Honorable Mention prizes of \$200 each for poems in any style. All twelve prize-winning poems will be published online. Previously published poems are accepted. The length limit is 250 lines per poem, the deadline is September 30, the entry fee is \$20 per submission of one-to-three poems, multiple submissions are permitted. Further details, and submission link, are at

<https://winningwriters.com/our-contests/tom-howard-margaret-reid-poetry-contest>.

**Cephalopress**, an independent publishing house operating out of Brighton, UK, is accepting submissions of poems and short stories for a forthcoming printed anthology on the theme of Borders and Belonging. There is no submission fee, length limit is 40 lines, deadline is August 15. Payment is a free copy of the anthology. Full submission guidelines are at

[www.cephalopress.com/submissions](http://www.cephalopress.com/submissions).

**Eye to the Telescope** is an online quarterly journal of speculative poetry. And what is speculative poetry? "Speculative poetry is poetry which falls within the genres of science fiction, fantasy, and supernatural horror, plus some related genres such as magic realism, metafiction, and fabulation." *Eye to the Telescope* is now accepting submissions for its fall issue, whose theme is Quest. Submission is free, deadline is September 15, and they pay accepted poems 4¢ per word up to a maximum of \$25. Complete submission guidelines are at <https://eyetothetelescope.com/submit.html>.

**Paddler Press** is a print-and-online quarterly Canadian poetry journal based in Peterborough. It is currently open for submissions of "poems that are not overly long" on the theme of Changes. *Changes can be physical or philosophical, real or imagined. What are changes to you?* Submission is free; deadline is September 9; payment consists of a free copy of the printed journal. Full guidelines are at <https://paddlerpress.ca/submissions/>.

**Ninetenths** is a quarterly online journal that is seeking poems on the theme of Reaping. "We are looking for narrative driven poetry that have characteristics of the confessional. ... While all art 'lies to tell the truth' in its own way, we are only looking poetry that reflects on your own lived experiences." There is no line limit; there is no entry fee, deadline is August 31. You must include a failure-specific bio with your submission, and if you don't know what a "failure-specific bio" is, they explain it in the submission guidelines at <https://ninetenthspress.com/submissions/>.

**Passager** is a biannual print journal of poetry, memoir, and short fiction by writers over the age of 50. They are now open for submissions on the theme of Ancestral or Generational Trauma for their upcoming issue. Submit up to five poems, 40-line maximum each, or up to 4,000 words of prose. Submission is free. Deadline is September 15. Guidelines are at [www.passagerbooks.com/submit/](http://www.passagerbooks.com/submit/).



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