



VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

OCTOBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

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VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Poets,

Welcome to a New Year! – and even as we're all busy celebrating the High Holidays, Voices Israel is looking ahead to a full program of activities.

First, a reminder: **the Reuben Rose Competition is still open for submissions, but it closes in two weeks' time, on October 15th**. So if you haven't done so yet: do remember to enter your best poems for the chance to win one of the prizes or an Honorable Mention!

Second: **the Anthology launch event**, on October 25th. I'm still hoping that it will be held in-person, at the Karaoke Bar in Netanya; but so far only 10 people have signed up to come in person while far more have signed up to attend if it's held via Zoom. We need many more than 10 people to hold it in-person, so right now it looks like it will revert to being a Zoom event. **If you would like to attend the in-person Anthology launch (or for that matter a Zoom one) and haven't yet registered, please do so to our secretary Pesach at secretary.voices@gmail.com, by October 9th**. As soon as we've made the final decision, Karaoke Bar or Zoom, we'll put out a notice to everyone.

On November 14th we're holding a one-day workshop in Haifa, given by Haifa members Wendy Blumfield and Iris Dan, with a "warm-up exercise" from Elana Dorfman our workshop coordinator. This workshop will definitely be an in-person event! As usual, there's a notice about it in this newsletter. We're moving to handling registration via a very short online form, so there's a link in the notice to fill in the form. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there for an enjoyable and educational meeting!

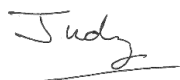
In mid-November, also, the fourth Bar Sagi Young Poets Prize will open for submissions. **We need your help to publicize it to teachers**. If you know any English teachers – your children's or grandchildren's; former or current colleagues; friends – please do suggest it to them. Our announcement and the guidelines can be downloaded from the Voices Israel website (<https://www.voicesisrael.com/bar-sagi-prize>) and I'll be happy to email them to anyone who requests it (to president.voices@gmail.com).

Finally, we'll round off the year with the opening in mid-December of the submission period for the 2023 Anthology.

Looking ahead to 2023: our energetic 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).

Finally: we are still looking for a new Publicity Officer to replace Wendy Blumfield. Anyone interested, please email me at president.voices@gmail.com and/or Wendy at blumfieldwendy@gmail.com. Wendy will be happy to explain what she does and provide a list of contacts.

G'mar chatimah tovah to us all!



Judy Koren, President, Voices Israel.

VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

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

– **Yvonne Altman O'Connor**, Dublin, Ireland

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS

To – **Helen Bar-Lev**, , who won First Prize in the IFLAC World Peace Poetry Contest, and to **Larry Lefkowitz**, who was selected as a finalist in the competition.

To – **Isaac Cohen**, who was the subject of the article “Poetic Labyrinth of Isaac Cohen” by Ana Stjelja in *Lamed-E* at https://6c3ea480-8d8c-4f68-8ac2-e273643fc6e0.filesusr.com/ugd/41e276_ba79560012614c718ddd3f0db613b0d3.pdf (p. 20).

To – **Iris Dan**, whose poem “Solomon Schechter at the Cairo Geniza” has been accepted for publication by *Poetica Magazine*.

To – **Paul Rabinowitz**, whose prose poem “In the Original Language” was published in *The Zodiac Review* at www.thezodiacreview.com/; whose story “Diamond Life Master” was published in *La Piccioletta Barca* at www.picciolettabarca.com/posts/diamond-life-master; and whose manuscript of poems and short stories called *truth, love and the lines in between* has been accepted for publication by Finishing Line Press. Many of the poems in the book were workshopped with the Tel Aviv chapter of Voices Israel.

To – **Patti Tana**, whose new digital book of poems, *Bumper Crop*, includes photographs by her husband John Renner, and is now posted for viewing on his website: <http://johnrennerphotography.com>.

A NOTE FROM THE WORKSHOP COORDINATOR

Happy New Year

from Voices' Workshops Coordinator

This year we plan to bring you 3 workshops:

the first one will be in November in Haifa.

*Please be in touch with me if you want to
lead, help organize, or host a workshop,
especially in Jerusalem, Beer Sheva or Tel Aviv.*

I am looking forward to a great year at Voices full of learning, creativity and sharing our work



Elana Dorfman, Workshop Coordinator – 054 6686 513 elanado@gmail.com

VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

HAIFA WORKSHOP – NOVEMBER 14

Dreams and Other Paradoxes

A Voices Workshop

Monday, November 14, 2022

10:30-15:30

"Mendel Zinger 23, Haifa

12th floor, apt. 70 (Elana: 054 6686513)

Please bring a vegetarian/dairy dish to share

A brief warm-up exercise

led by Elana Dorfman

One Session:

"The Stuff That Dreams Are Made of:

The play within a play"

Led By Wendy Blumfield

Another Session:

"Fearful Symmetry:

Poetic Expressions of the

Coexistence of Opposites

in the Mind" or

How come we are still normal?

Led By Iris Dan

Photograph Elana Dorfman

To register for the workshop, please click this link and fill in the form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/12Dgh9vU-IFJqilubYYZg11S-whypY9JOk1ZYOAEVfrl/edit>

A NEW BOOK BY CAROLYN MARY KLEEFELD

In *Immortal Seeds*, Voices member Carolyn Mary Kleefeld shares her powerful healing journey, the radical transformative process that she and her late husband, David Campagna lived through during the time he endured a terminal illness and, for Carolyn, after David transitioned from this world. The sadness and suffering, the grief and challenge, the questioning, as well as the comfort, the miracles, the peace, the gratitude, and the rebirth that she and David discovered, are expressed through a series of soul-stirring poems, prose, drawings, and paintings, which were created during David's illness and in Carolyn's continuing healing after his transition. Learn more at <https://carolynmarykleefeld.com/publications/#immortalseeds>

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CALL FOR EKPHRASTIC POETRY SUBMISSIONS

Kibbutz Gezer is planning a group exhibition of ekphrastic poems by Voices Israel members in April 2023. Both the poem and the visual art must be creations of the poet. No submission fee. No simultaneous submissions. Submission deadline December 30, 2022.

Please email submissions or inquiries to Ira Director at ira.saul.director@gmail.com

- Bio of 100 words.
- Poem printed separate from the artwork.
- Photo of the entire work.
- The total size of the poem and artwork.
- The subject of your email and attachment MUST have your last name - ekphrastic submission. Example: Moshe Cohen - ekphrastic submission

There will be a festive opening to the exhibit.

WELCOME TO YETZIRAH

Yetzilah (www.yetzilahpoets.org) is a relatively new nonprofit literary organization based in the USA, which is “dedicated to fostering and supporting a community space for Jewish poets.” It welcomes “poets who identify as Jewish” from anywhere in the world and invites them to subscribe to its mailing list (<https://yetzilahpoets.org/donate/subscribe/>) and attend its online readings (<https://yetzilahpoets.org/programs/reading-series/>).

They are building **a searchable database of Jewish poets – a great chance for those of us who meet its inclusion criteria to get greater exposure and publicity!** If you meet the criteria and would like the publicity – fill out the form at <https://yetzilahpoets.org/jewish-poets-database/form/>. The criteria are:

Since January 1, 2015, you have published (**NOT** self-published):

- A volume of 48 or more pages of poetry
OR
- 20 or more individual poems or pages of poetry that have appeared in a total of **at least five** different literary journals, anthologies, or publications that regularly include poetry as a portion of their format. (Note that publishing in 5+ separate issues of the same magazine or anthology counts as ONE literary outlet not five).

Up to 16 pages of that poetry may be from a single volume of poetry that is fewer than 48 pages (e.g. a chapbook – again provided it was commercially published not self-published).

They also encourage people to create profiles for deceased Jewish poets who wrote at least one full-length collection.

VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

AN INVITATION FROM WILLA SCHNEBERG

I hope you can attend this reading!

The 23rd Annual JEWISH VOICES Reading - Live & Virtual

Bryna Goodman, Seth Lorinczi, Vivien Popperl, Michael Schein, Willa Schneberg
Oregon Jewish Museum & Center for Holocaust Education (OJMCHÉ)

Tues. Oct. 18, 2022 7PM (PDT)

PLEASE REGISTER: <https://www.ojmche.org/events/oregon-jewish-voices-2022/lwl>

For those of you living in Israel, the program will take place in the middle of the night. If you are interested, the event will be posted on the OJMCHÉ website under RECORDED EVENTS 2022.

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 and/or Wendy at 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.

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THE REUBEN ROSE COMPETITION IS OPEN UNTIL OCTOBER 15!

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.

VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

2022 VOICES ISRAEL ANTHOLOGY LAUNCH

The 2022 Voices Israel Anthology was sent out to all members in mid-August; hopefully you've all received it. Now let's celebrate it the way we want – with a Launch Event in a central location! Come and read your poem(s) from the Anthology, or just relax and enjoy with other members. You are welcome to bring guests.

When: Tuesday October 25th, 6 pm to 9 pm – right after the High Holidays.

Where: Stage Karaoke Bar: 9 Arieh Regev Street, Netanya. A convenient central location, with good parking and an easy two-minute walk from the Netanya-Sapir train station.

Cost including a light supper: 60 NIS per person. (There's a meat or vegetarian option, as usual).

It could be Zoomed: Depending on the number of registrations, the feedback from our members, and the state of the Corona situation in October, the Launch could be moved to Zoom. In that case the event costs nothing, and our overseas members can join us, but we'll each have to bring our own food.

Preregistration is required no later than Sunday, October 9. To register, please email Pesach Rotem at secretary.voices@gmail.com with the following information:

- Whether or not you will attend if the Launch is held in Netanya.
- Whether or not you will attend if the Launch is held on Zoom.
- Number of guests who will be with you.
- Whether you wish to read your poem(s) that appear in the Anthology.
- If you can't come but would like a proxy reader to read your poem(s).
- If you wish to act as a proxy reader for someone else's poem. (If there are particular poems you would like to read, please include that information.)
- Light supper option for you and each of your guests. (Meat option is hamburger or chicken wrap; vegetarian option is a stir-fried veggie wrap.)
- Any additional information or comments that you wish to include.

Please note: If we decide to hold the Launch on Zoom, we will need to cancel the room booking in advance **or we will have to pay for it**. Therefore, it is important to register no later than Sunday, October 9th, which is Erev Sukkot.

VOICES ISRAEL GROUP OF POETS IN ENGLISH

CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

Defenestration is a tri-annual online literary magazine dedicated to humor. *We don't worry about the particulars of genre, style, or form as long as the work is funny.* Submissions for the December 20 issue are open until December 5. Submit up to five poems. No submission fee. They do not accept simultaneous submissions but they do accept previously published poems. Full guidelines are at www.defenestrationmag.net/submissions/.

Quartet is an online quarterly poetry journal featuring work by women fifty and over. If you fit that description, you are invited to submit up to three poems. The next open submission period is October 8 through November 8. *Quartet chooses to remain fee-free for submissions and as such is unable to pay contributors except with our admiration and support of your work.* There is no submission fee. Full guidelines are at www.quartetjournal.com/submissions.

The Poeming Pigeon is a full-color annual print journal of both poetry and artwork. *We enjoy poems of all styles: formal, free-verse, metered, non-rhyming, experimental, nostalgic, political, erotic, abstract, lyrical, etc. And to the accepted poets who share and entrust us with their words, we promise to represent your work in the highest aesthetic possible, in a book you will be proud to share.* Submissions are open until October 31. There is a \$4 fee to submit up to four poems. Full guidelines are at <https://thepoetrybox.com/the-poeming-pigeon>.

Prairie Fire is a Canadian quarterly print magazine of new writing, with an upcoming special issue on the theme of The Peace We Make. *Prairie Fire is seeking fiction, poetry and creative non-fiction that looks at the depth of peace, and the struggles that we've all had when it comes to creating peace instead of war.* Submitted work may address making peace between nations, peace between individuals, peace within oneself. Submission deadline is October 28. Submit up to three poems. No submission fee. Guidelines at www.prairiefire.ca/submissions/call-for-submissions-the-peace-we-make/.

Synkroniciti is a quarterly online arts journal. Submissions are now open for issue fourteen, "Intersections," and will close on October 17. We prefer free verse and are more fond of visual poetry than formal rhyme schemes, although rhyming does not disqualify your work. There is a \$3 submission fee. Submit up to five poems. Submission to the journal automatically enters you in the Intersection poetry contest, which awards a \$60 prize plus four free issues to the winner. Full guidelines are at <https://synkroniciti.com/the-magazine/submissions/>.

Invisible City is a biannual online publication of the MFA in Writing Program at the University of San Francisco. *Invisible City seeks work that makes the unseen seen, examining the world through previously unconsidered perspectives and angles. We like work that is specific, whether that means reveling in weirdness or adhering to tradition.* The deadline for poetry submissions is October 16. There is no fee to submit. They pay a \$20 honorarium to all contributors. Full guidelines are at <https://www.invisiblecitylit.com/submissions/>.

The **Better Than Starbucks 2022 Sonnet Contest** is now open for submissions through November 30. Submit one sonnet only. There is no submission fee. First prize is \$500, second prize is \$100, third prize is \$50, and up to seven Honorable Mentions will also be awarded. Previously published sonnets are accepted, but simultaneous submissions are not accepted. *This contest is for a metrical sonnet. Your sonnet can be shakespearean, petrarchan, spenserian, rhymed, or slant-rhymed. Blank verse is eligible, as long as the sonnet form is clearly identifiable. We'll consider tetrameter, hexameter, etc. as well as pentameter. Some metrical variation is fine, but don't forget the volta!* Full guidelines are at <https://www.betterthanstarbucks.org/sonnet-contest>.

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