

Announcing the...

Being at Work

Poetry Challenge

Work in the hustle and bustle of the now is central to the human experience, yet rarely do we sit back and think about how work has come to define our being. In an attempt to explore this notion we are challenging experienced and beginner poets to submit poetry that captures the essence, nuance and personal of worklife experiences. We're looking for poems by people about the work they personally do or have done, paid or unpaid, blue- or white- or no-collar. And for poems about the work of looking for work, and about how our hours at work affect the rest of our lives. In an attempt to reach people from all walks of life we have organized two contests; one contest for experienced poets and another contest for everybody else. Challenge our unique panel of judges and tell us about your work.

Judges:

Susan Eisenberg - is an active, nationally-recognized artist/scholar from the USA. Licensed as a master electrician, she is involved in shaping the cultural expression and analytical thinking of the tradeswomen's movement nationally and internationally. Her latest book, "We'll Call You If We Need You", drawn from oral histories of tradeswomen pioneers, was selected as a New York Times Book Review Notable Book, and is currently under development by MGM as a feature film.

Buzz Hargrove - is the National President of the Canadian Autoworkers Union. Buzz has held this position since 1992 and has been active in the labour and arts community for many years.

Maureen Hynes - is an educator, poet and activist. Maureen won the Gerald Lampert Award for best first collection of poetry in 1995. In the fall of 2002, Maureen was Writer-in-Residence at the University of Prince Edward Island. She is also the poetry editor for Our Times, Canada's national labour magazine.

Ken Neumann - is the National Director of Canada for the United Steel Workers of America. Ken has been an active member with the Steelworkers for over 40 years. He is a long time supporter of the labour and arts community.

Tom Wayman - has edited two groundbreaking anthologies of U.S. and Canadian poets writing about their employment, most recently Paperwork (Harbour, 1991). He has been active in both the radical and mainstream union movements; currently he teaches English and writing at the University of Calgary.

Submissions can be sent regular post or emailed.

LivingWork.ca
P.O. Box 41171
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
K1G 5K9
Email submissions to: poetry@livingwork.ca

Prizes:

Experienced Poets: First Prize: \$300, second prize \$150, third prize \$75

Beginning Poets: First Prize: \$300, second prize \$150, third prize \$75. (prize amounts are a minimum)

Our Times, Canada's independent labour magazine will be publishing a small selection of winning poems.

Closing Date: July 31, 2006. Winners announced in early September.

Entry Fee: Free, donations will be accepted. All donations will be given to the **Movement for Canadian Literacy** a national non-profit organization. Include a cheque or money order with your submissions, made out to the Movement for Canadian Literacy. Donations are tax deductible so include a return address.

Experienced Poets Contest Details :

Maximum of 3 poems, maximum 120 lines per poem. Send only original, unpublished material. The contest will be judged blind; do not put a name or other identifying marks on poems. Include a separate covering sheet that includes your identification and title of poems submitted. Entries will not be returned. (Please note that we would like to focus on poems outside of the work involved in the writing process. Experienced poets are those with least 6 works published in literary magazines and/or have one of their collections published by a reputable publisher.)

Beginning Poets Contest Details:

Maximum of 3 poems, maximum 120 lines per poem. Send only original work. Entries will not be returned.

Please indicate which contest you are entering. For more contest information or beginner tips on writing poetry visit:

www.livingwork.ca

