



## Supplemental Guide to 2018-2019 Open Contests for Contestants and Judges

### “Musts and Shoulds” for October 2018

#### **TANKA (Open)**

Deadline: October 20, 2018

Sponsor: Lisa Grover and Curtis Pierce

Theme: Optional

Form: Tanka

Line Limit: 5

Additional prize money (\$100 total): First, \$50; Second, \$30; and Third, \$20.

#### **MUSTS:**

1. The poem must be 31 syllables long.
2. The poem must consist of 5 lines, following the traditional pattern of 5, 7, 5, 7, and 7 syllables per line.
3. The poem must be unrhymed.
4. The poem, as is traditional, must incorporate a pivot in the third line, which connects the “upper phrase” (lines 1 and 2), describing a concrete image, to the “lower phrase” (lines 4 and 5), in which the reader learns of the poet’s reaction to the image.

#### **SOME POSSIBILITIES:**

1. Titles are optional (not required, but no criticism for adding a title, either).
2. Open subject matter: traditional, non-traditional, and modern subjects welcome.