

**RED WHEELBARROW POETRY PRIZE
WINNERS & FINALISTS, 2021**

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Poetry Center San José and *Red Wheelbarrow Magazine* are pleased to announce the winners of the fifth annual *Red Wheelbarrow Poetry Prize*.
The poet Mark Doty was this year's final judge.

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2021 Winners

1st Prize: "In Respect to the Jellyfish," Susan Cohen, Berkeley, CA
2nd Prize: "Consider Salt," Judith H. Montgomery, Oregon City, OR
3rd Prize: "Euphemisms," Karan Kapoor, New Delhi, India

These poets will receive awards of \$1,000, \$500, and \$250 respectively, and Felicia Rice of Moving Parts Press (Mendocino, CA) will produce an original broadside of Susan Cohen's winning poem, "In Respect to the Jellyfish."

2021 Finalists

"The Language of Dogs," Janine Certo, East Lansing, Michigan
"Cassowary," Stephanie L. Harper, Indianapolis, Indiana
"Neighborhood Rehabilitation Program," Gillat Kol, Princeton, New Jersey
"Restoration," K.T. Landon, Arlington, Massachusetts
"What This Elegy Wants," Preeti Vangani, San Francisco, California

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The fifth annual *Red Wheelbarrow Prize* received over 1800 poem submissions from 622 writers. The prize is open for submissions through spring and summer months (Submittable.com), deadline July 31st. *Red Wheelbarrow* magazine publishes prizewinning and finalist poems in its annual national edition. The 2021 *Red Wheelbarrow* launch and prize celebration will take place Tuesday, December 14th in Zoom, details TBA.



(poetry center san José)

SEMIFINALISTS, 2021 *Red Wheelbarrow* Poetry Prize

Britt Allen, "Gratitude: A Prayer"
Jacie Andrews, "Yous hush"
Jessica Cohn, "The Birds"
Mackenzie Cole, "I am Haunted By Where Our Hands Would"
Jalen Eutsey, "West Perrine Park"
Rebecca Faulkner, "Last Rites"
Robbie Gamble, "Nocturne on a Bed of Couscous"
Jonathan Greenhouse, "Por Dios"
Jean Harper, "Another Country"
Samantha Hsiung, "chintown pt.2"
Karan Kapoor, "A Ghazal for My Grandmother," "There is no time here"
Stacey Lawrence, "Hygiene"
Milica Mijatović, "Oj Golube, Moj Golube," "Novo Brčko"
Hikari Miya, "jazz"
Judith Montgomery, "Trying to Close the Blinds"
Kim Nall, "now we know what we mean when we say water is holy"
Kathleen Reddy, "Stations"
Rachel Stempel, "Costly Quiet"
Vivian Underhill, "Kaibab"
Julie Marie Wade, "How Grief Makes Me Willing"
Avra Wing, "On Not Visiting My Son During Covid"



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WINNER BIOGRAPHIES

1st Prize, "In Respect to the Jellyfish"

Susan Cohen is the author of two chapbooks and two books: *Throat Singing* (WordTech; 2012) and *A Different Wakeful Animal* (David Martinson-Meadowhawk Prize, Red Dragonfly Press; 2016). Her poems have appeared in *Catamaran*, *PANK*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Southern Review*, *32 Poems*, and recently won the annual poetry prize from Terrain.org and second place in *Cutthroat's* Joy Harjo Awards. She has an MFA from Pacific University and lives in Berkeley, California.

2nd Prize, "Consider Salt"

Judith H. Montgomery's poems appear in the *Bellingham Review*, *Tahoma Literary Review*, *Valparaiso Poetry Review*, and *Healing Muse*, among other journals, and in a number of anthologies. Her first collection, *Passion*, received the Oregon Book Award for Poetry. Her fourth book, *Litany for Wound and Bloom*, was a finalist for the Marsh Hawk Prize, and appeared in August 2018 from Uttered Chaos Press. Her prize-winning narrative medicine chapbook, *Mercy*, appeared from Wolf Ridge Press in 2019.

3rd Prize, "Euphemisms"

Karan Kapoor is a poet based in New Delhi. His poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *Rattle*, *Atticus Review*, *The Indian Quarterly*, *The Bombay Literary Magazine*, *Scroll* and elsewhere. Recently having finished his MA in Literary Art Creative Writing at Ambedkar University, he hopes to live a life devoted to poetry and music. <https://www.karankapoor.co.in/>

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FINAL JUDGE

MARK DOTY is the author of nine books of poetry, most recently *Deep Lane* (W.W. Norton, 2015). *Fire to Fire: New and Selected Poems* was published in 2008 and won the National Book Award for that year. He is the first American poet to have won Great Britain's T. S. Eliot Prize, for *My Alexandria* (1993), which also received both the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award. His other collections of poetry include: *Turtle, Swan* (1987); *Atlantis* (1995); *Sweet Machine* (1998); *Source* (2001); and the critically-acclaimed volume, *School of the Arts* (HarperCollins, 2005). He is the author of three memoirs, including the New York Times-bestselling *Dog Years* (HarperCollins, 2007), *Firebird* (1999), and *Heaven's Coast* (1997). His most recent book is a memoir that centers on his poetic relationship with Walt Whitman, entitled *What Is the Grass* (W. W. Norton, 2020). Former US Poet Laureate Philip Levine remarked, "If it were mine to invent the poet to complete the century of William Carlos Williams and Wallace Stevens, I would create Mark Doty just as he is, a maker of big, risky, fearless poems in which ordinary human experience becomes music."