

**RED WHEELBARROW POETRY PRIZE  
WINNERS & FINALISTS, 2024**

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Poetry Center San José and *Red Wheelbarrow Magazine* are pleased to announce the winners of the eighth annual *Red Wheelbarrow Poetry Prize*.

The poet Kim Addonizio was this year's final judge.

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**2024 Winners**

1st Prize: "Pink Anemone," John Blair, San Marcos, TX

2nd Prize: "Driving the Prison Bus is a Calling," G.R. Kramer, Alexandria, VA

3rd Prize: "Mother's Rural Kansas Childhood, 1910s," Jane Bridges, Ann Arbor, MI

These poets will receive awards of \$1,000, \$500, and \$250 respectively, and Gary Young of Greenhouse Review Press (Bonny Doon, CA) will produce an original broadside of John Blair's winning poem, "Pink Anemone."

**2024 Finalists**

"Do not mistake the waterfall for a harbor," Mirande Bissell, Ellicott City, MD

"In Which I Inhabit for a Moment a Whitesnake Video," Morrow Dowdle, Durham, NC

"Phantom Daughter," Sara Femenella Los Angeles, CA

"Arachnophobia," Elizabeth Joy Levinson Chicago, IL

"Everything is a Cool New Modern Wine Bar Now," Amy Meckler, Forest Hills, NY

"To the first poet I met here," Olga Mexina, Tallahassee, FL

"How Batteries Work," Lisa Allen Ortiz, Santa Cruz, CA

"spring comes to Juniata, Pennsylvania, 1945," Thomas Patterson, Westport, MA

"Cuban Sonnet," Alfonso "Sito" Sasieta, Hyattsville, MD

"The Other Grail," Kira Trainor, Pomfret Center, CT

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The eighth annual *Red Wheelbarrow Prize* received 2400 poem submissions from over 800 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 fall national edition. The 2024 *Red Wheelbarrow* launch and prize celebration will take place

Tuesday, December 10th, 7-9 PM PST in Zoom and in person; details TBA.



(poetry center san josé)

## SEMIFINALISTS, 2023 *Red Wheelbarrow* Poetry Prize

Steven Alvarez, "4:40 am next to my father"  
Mirande Bissell, "Do not mistake the waterfall for a harbor"  
John Blair, "Pink Anemone"  
Jane Bridges, "My Mother's Rural Kansas Childhood, 1910s"  
Panika Dillon, "two cents for Bryan Hughes"  
Morrow Dowdle, "In Which I Inhabit for a Moment a Whitesnake Video"  
Sara Femenella, "Phantom Daughter"  
Elizabeth Sochko Hussain, "With"  
Susan Kelley, "Battle at the Salt Marsh Slough"  
G.R. Kramer, "Driving the Prison Bus is a Calling"  
Olivia Le, "Where do you see yourself in \_\_\_ years?"  
Elizabeth Joy Levinson, "Vivipary"  
Elizabeth Joy Levinson, "Arachnophobia"  
Jane McBride, "An Ode to Edward Hopper"  
Amy Meckler, "Everything Is a Cool New Modern Wine Bar Now"  
Olga Mexina, "To the first poet I met here"  
Dion O'Reilly, "Dog-walking the Now"  
Lisa Allen Ortiz, "How Batteries Work"  
Thomas Patterson, "spring comes to Juniata, Pennsylvania, 1945"  
Emily Portillo, "After the 527th Anti-LGBTQ bill this year, I remind myself"  
Kimberly Ann Priest, "Concerning Exes"  
Amy Raasch, "Ornament"  
Maya Salameh, "Me & the Jinn in Your Laptop Had a Talk about You"  
Alfonso "Sito" Sasieta, "Cuban Sonnet"  
Purvi Shah, "Insecticide"  
Kira Trainor, "The Other Grail"  
Pamela Williams, "Beauty bores me"  
Avra Wing, "Remember, This Was 1969"



## WINNER BIOGRAPHIES

### 1st Prize, "Pink Anemone"

**John Blair** is the author of seven books, including *The Shape of Things to Come* (Gival, 2023) and *Playful Song Called Beautiful* (University of Iowa Press, 2016) as well as poems & stories in magazines including *The Colorado Review*, *Poetry*, *The Sewanee Review*, *The Antioch Review*, and *New Letters*.

### 2nd Prize, "Driving the Prison Bus is a Calling"

**G.R. Kramer** hails from Canada, Colorado, Kenya, Alabama and New York, but he is a long-time Virginia transplant. He is the child of refugees from Nazism and Communism. All of the above influence his writing. He has published in numerous journals in recent years, including *Palette Poetry*, the *New York Times*, and *Winter Anthology*. He recently won the Inception Poetry Prize, sponsored by *Sunspot Literary Journal*. His first chapbook, *Locomotive of Mangled Parts*, was published by Finishing Line Press in 2023.

### 3rd Prize, "My Mother's Rural Kansas Childhood, 1910s"

**Jane Bridges'** poems have been published in *The MacGuffin* (18th National Poet Hunt Contest, Honorable Mention), *Mudfish*, *Sow's Ear Poetry Review*, *Third Wednesday*, *Paterson Literary Review* (2014 Allen Ginsberg Poetry Awards, Honorable Mention), and elsewhere. Since retiring from teaching full time (mostly science), she has taught poetry workshops to teens and retirees.

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**Kim Addonizio** is the author of seven poetry collections, two novels, two story collections, and two books on writing poetry: *The Poet's Companion* (with Dorianne Laux) and *Ordinary Genius*. Her poetry collection *Tell Me* was a finalist for the National Book Award. She also has two word/music CDs: *Swearing, Smoking, Drinking, & Kissing* (with Susan Browne) and *My Black Angel*, the companion to *My Black Angel: Blues Poems and Portraits*, a collaboration with woodcut artist Charles D. Jones. Addonizio's awards include two fellowships from the NEA, a Guggenheim, two Pushcart Prizes, and other honors. Her latest books are a poetry collection *Mortal Trash* (W.W. Norton); a memoir, *Bukowski in a Sundress: Confessions from a Writing Life* (Penguin); *Now We're Getting Somewhere* (W.W. Norton 2021); and *Exit Opera: Poems*, which just came out from W.W. Norton in September, 2024.