

Rhysling Revamp - Survey Round 1

Welcome

This questionnaire is for members of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Poetry Association. The following survey will inform proposed changes to the future Rhysling Anthology and Awards process. Current rules: <http://sfpoetry.com/ra/rhyspolicy.html>

SFPA membership is growing, and 2022's ballot is the longest yet! The anthology contains 103 final SHORT nominees and 77 final LONG nominees. The current rules do not allow for a manageable awards process as the association continues to grow. Change is needed!

The SFPA Executive and Rhysling Committees are reviewing the process with the understanding that there is no perfect awards structure and not everyone will be entirely satisfied. We ask for your patience as we process surveys, hold discussions, and collectively develop a sustainable plan for the future.

Member email addresses are collected on this form to avoid multiple survey submissions from the same individual. Only SFPA Secretary Brian Garrison will have access to these details, which will be kept strictly confidential.

Please return your responses by **Sunday July 10**.

Speculatively,
SFPA Rhysling Committee

Colleen Anderson
F. J. Bergmann
Deborah Davitt
Brian Garrison
Geoffrey Landis

Email sfpasecretary@gmail.com for any questions, concerns, or difficulty with this form.

Your email address *

Length of Ballot

Please respond to each item below. You can provide open-ended feedback in the spaces provided.

To shorten the list of nominees, members should be allowed only one nomination regardless of category (Long/Short). *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

There should be another way to shorten the final list, and members should be allowed to submit MORE nominations. *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

A jury, panel, or selection committee should create a final voting ballot from member nominations (length of list TBD; could be 10, could be 100). *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

A jury, panel, or selection committee should read through a list of nominees to select the final winners (1st, 2nd, and 3rd). *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

A process should be devised (TBD) where a poem must receive more than one nomination to be on the final voting ballot. *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

Nominees should not be listed on the website before the final voting ballot is selected. *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

What number of short poem nominations would be an appropriate number for members to consider on a final voting ballot? *

Past anthology nominees - 2022 had 103 SHORT; 2017 had 99 SHORT; 2012 had 66 SHORT

What number of long poem nominations would be an appropriate number for members to consider on a final voting ballot? *

Past anthology nominees - 2022 had 77 LONG; 2017 had 55 LONG; 2012 had 39 LONG

Additional thoughts on ballot length

Eligibility and Categories

Please respond to each item below. You can provide open-ended feedback in the spaces provided.

Poems eligible for Dwarf Stars (10 lines and shorter) should not be eligible for the Rhysling Award. *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

The cutoff between SHORT (49 lines and under) and LONG (50+ lines) should change. *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

There should be a maximum line length to the LONG category (word count for prose poetry). *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

A poem long enough to fit among the Elgin awards (10 pages or more) should be eligible for the Elgin but **not** the Rhysling. *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

Additional thoughts on eligibility and categories

Membership, nominating, and voting

Please respond to each item below. You can provide open-ended feedback in the spaces provided.

It is important to me to receive the print anthology before voting instead of relying on an electronic copy. *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

Only an electronic copy of poems should be provided for voting. Afterward, a print anthology should contain the top selections. *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

Members should not be allowed to nominate family members (siblings, children, parents, spouses/domestic partners, etc.). *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

Nominated poets should not be allowed to vote for their own poems. *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

A member should be in good standing prior to January 1 to be allowed to nominate (i.e., no signing up and nominating on the same day/year). *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

A member should be in good standing prior to January 1 to be allowed to vote (i.e., no signing up and voting on the same day/year). *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

A member should be in good standing prior to April 1 (release date of the Rhysling) to be allowed to vote. *

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

What number of SHORT poems would be appropriate to print in an abridged anthology after voting? *

What number of LONG poems would be appropriate to print in an abridged anthology after voting? *

Additional thoughts on nominations and voting

Other

Please provide any additional thoughts or comments on other elements of the Rhysling Awards and Anthology