

# THE 10TH ANNUAL BALOCATING UNDERGRADUATE PRIZE FOR POETRY

## Guidelines

Open to MSU undergraduate students  
in **any major**

Submit up to **three** poems

Poems must **not identify** you as the  
writer

Provide a separate cover sheet  
including: your name, email, and  
phone number

Cover sheet and poems may be  
combined into one pdf

Submissions to: **[cpoetry@msu.edu](mailto:cpoetry@msu.edu)**

**\$500 Prize  
for a single  
poem**

**Deadline: Sunday, March 22, 2020**

***Winner to be announced at the April 15 Spring Poetry Festival reading  
by Marilyn Nelson***

### About final judge Marilyn Nelson

Marilyn Nelson is the author or translator of seventeen poetry books and the memoir *How I Discovered Poetry*. She is also the author of *The Fields Of Praise: New And Selected Poems*, which won the 1998 Poets' Prize, *Carver: A Life In Poems*, which won the 2001 Boston Globe/Hornbook Award and the Flora Stieglitz Straus Award, and *Fortune's Bones*, which was a Coretta Scott King Honor Book and won the Lion and the Unicorn Award for Excellence in North American Poetry. Nelson's honors include two NEA creative writing fellowships, the 1990 Connecticut Arts Award, a Fulbright Teaching Fellowship, a fellowship from the J.S. Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, and the Frost Medal. She was the Poet Laureate of the State of Connecticut from 2001-2006.



### About Annie Balocating (1979-2018)

Annie Balocating was an MSU/Residential Option in Arts and Letters (ROIAL) alumna, where she was an avid poet and active in community efforts to assist refugees of Sudan. After graduating, she and her husband Jeremy Couillard (also a ROIAL alumnus) moved to Brooklyn, NY, where Annie would earn both her M.A. and M.P.A., and where she co-founded the Rwanda Research Group. As special Assistant to the University Associate Dean and Deputy to the Senior University Dean at City University of New York (CUNY), Annie worked to improve college prep programs for struggling schools throughout NYC. She was passionate about changing the world, and donated her time and talents to countless organizations and volunteer efforts.

