
American Poets Continuum Series

Rules and Guidelines

General

Please note that unsolicited manuscripts sent outside of the open reading period will be recycled without response. Boa does not publish novels. Thank you.

The American Poets Continuum Series celebrates new collections of poetry by distinguished mid-career poets. Poets who have previously published a full-length book of poetry with a traditional publisher are eligible to submit to the American Poets Continuum Series via solicitation or during an open reading period. Open reading periods depend on our editorial calendar and are announced online via Boa's social media feeds and email newsletter.

Only paper submissions will be accepted. Please see the guidelines below for details.

Electronic Submissions

- We do not accept electronic submissions for the American Poets Continuum Series at any time.

Physical Submissions

All physical manuscripts must be mailed (or postmarked) to the below Boa Editions address by the end of the open reading period. Please be sure to include the entry form with your submission. If sending two different manuscript, send just one copy of each.

Suggested Guidelines for Physical Submissions:

- Do not send by FedEx or UPS (please use the United States Postal Service).
- Send manuscript in a plain or padded envelope. No boxes, please.
- For notification of competition results, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) with sufficient return postage.
- Keep a copy of your manuscript, as manuscripts will not be returned.

***Please fill out the form on the last page of this document and include it in your package. You will also find additional mailing information there.**

Eligibility

- POETS MUST HAVE ALREADY PUBLISHED A FULL-LENGTH POETRY BOOK.
- Submit only one copy of the complete manuscript at a time. If two copies of the same manuscript are sent, both will be recycled.
- Include a cover letter. Do not include a résumé or vitae.
- Include title, publisher, and publication year of previous full-length poetry collections you have published.
- Contestants may submit the manuscript elsewhere simultaneously, but must notify Boa Editions immediately if a manuscript is accepted by another publisher.
- Please note that manuscripts will be recycled, not returned.
- There is no submission fee associated with this reading period.
- Neither late nor early manuscripts will be accepted.
- Once submitted, manuscripts cannot be altered. The winner will be given the opportunity to revise before publication.
- No AI-assisted submissions.

Manuscript Format

- Minimum of 65 pages of poetry (not including Table of Contents, Acknowledgments, etc.), and maximum of 120 pages of poetry.
- Manuscript text should be at least 12 pt. font.
- Manuscript pages should be one-sided.
- Name, address, telephone number, and email address must appear on the title or cover page of the manuscript.
- Do not send artwork or photographs along with manuscript.
- Paginated consecutively with a table of contents.
- Bound with a binder clip.
- Attach publication acknowledgments, if any.

Answers to FAQs

- The winner will retain full copyright of their work.
- The winner's collections will be published with Boa in an original paperback edition and an e-book edition, with a standard royalties package.
- All manuscripts will be recycled.
- Boa is not responsible for lost manuscripts.
- Self-published works do not count as previously published collections.
- Submissions are not read blind.

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Physical Submission Entry Form

Title of Manuscript _____

Author Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Mailing Address _____

Where did you hear about this contest?

*Attach this form, along with the \$30 submission fee, to the front of your manuscript.
Send manuscripts, postmarked between April 1st and May 31st, to:*

Boa Editions
ATTN: American Poets Continuum Series
250 N. Goodman Street, Suite 306
Rochester, NY 14607