

## Judges for the 2020 Annual Contest of CFCP, Inc.

### **Julie Damerell, Categories 1 & 2**

Julie Damerell lives on land once shared by the Seneca nation of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. Happily retired from meeting deadlines and figuring out how to provoke and then assess student growth in the classroom, she is not now but was once a submitting-for-publication poet, and you can find evidence of that in the world if you look hard enough. In 2020 she will become a grandmother to a baby (already grand to two dogs and a cat), something she imagines will spark delight in many directions. She has edited Miller's Pond since sometime in the 90s.

### **Lora Zill, Categories 3 & 4**

Lora Zill, M.A. teaches composition and critical analysis at the university level. She is also a teaching artist with the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, teaching poetry/arts infused curriculum in public and private schools. She edits and publishes the poetry journal *Time Of Singing*, and her own poetry and nonfiction have been published widely. She makes her home in northwest Pennsylvania and has two adult children and one cat.

### **Maria Rosales, Categories 5 & 6**

Maria Rosales was born in London, and lived in Europe, North Africa, Canada, and Hawaii before settling in California until the wildfires in Paradise destroyed her home. She is currently in Baja, Mexico, where she hosts monthly poetry events. Maria served on the board of the Ina Coolbrith Circle for over ten years. Her poems have appeared in *Byline*, *Poetry Depth Quarterly*, *Poetalk*, *Meridian*, *The Dirty Napkin*, *The Nashville Newsletter*, *Two Bridges Review*, *Brevities*, *The Art of Awe*, as well as several Anthologies. She has won numerous awards from the Ina Coolbrith Circle and Artists Embassy International. Her chapbook "Time to Fly" was published by Small Poetry Press. Maria just released "Voices of Paradise – Before the fire took our town – selections from a writers' group in Paradise", a tribute to the women in the writing salon she hosted. She is working on the release of her second full length book of poetry.

### **Colette Jonopolous, Categories 7 & 8**

Colette Jonopolous of Denver, Colorado writes: My identity is deeply influenced by frequent moves. First as a child moving from town to town in Southern California, later because of necessity and choice. From California to Louisiana, from Louisiana to Ohio. From Ohio back to California. Tennessee. Oregon. And finally to Denver, Colorado, a land of extremes in elevation, dry air, the shock of static electricity and gasping for breath during mountain hikes. How to be a poet in this climate? This has been my challenge, to create poems that can only be written at this moment in this city, poems not of lushness but of spartan skies and Hatch chilies, weed shops on every corner, and urban neighborhoods running into sprawling suburbs. These past seven-plus years in Denver have taught me that no matter where we live, no matter where we call home, the land speaks to us, the people move through us, and the poems eventually write themselves. Possibly not the poems we meant to write, but the ones that must be written.