



The Robert Burns Association of North America



RBANA 9th Annual Poetry Competition 2024

The **Jack Hume Heather & Thistle Trophy** is awarded annually for writing poetry in the style of Robert Burns. Jack Hume, who passed away a few years ago, was the founder of the Heather & Thistle Burns Club and a staunch supporter of RBANA. This is the ninth year that the trophy will be presented for the competition and entries are invited under the following rules and conditions:

- Entries should be submitted by email to secretary@rbana.com
- The deadline for entries is **Sunday 31st March 2024**
- Poems submitted must be original, and not previously published.
- Only RBANA members in good standing are eligible to win the trophy.
- Entries from non-RBANA members will be judged by the panel but are not eligible to win the trophy.
- The winner will be chosen by a three-member panel, consisting of Steve Newman, Associate Professor in the English Department at Temple University, Jim McLaughlin, a frequent winner of the competition and member of Calgary Burns Club and the 2023 Jack Hume Trophy winner Jim Alexander from Atlanta, GA. Entries will be submitted to the panel anonymously, and the panel's decision will be final.
- The winner will be announced at the 2024 AGM and Conference in Mount Holly, New Jersey in May.
- This trophy is awarded annually, and the winner is responsible for returning the trophy to the RBANA Secretary or President prior to the following year AGM & Conference.

Mark Ferguson, RBANA Vice President

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