

RULES
for
THE 2012 REBEKAH JOHNSON BOBBITT
\$10,000 NATIONAL PRIZE FOR POETRY

**FOR THE MOST DISTINGUISHED BOOK OF POETRY BY AN AMERICAN PUBLISHED IN
2010 or 2011**
OR FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT IN POETRY BY AN AMERICAN

1. ELIGIBILITY. Only publishers may submit entries. The award is made to the author (or authors in the event that the prize is split). Books submitted for the Most Distinguished Book of Poetry must have been published in 2010 or 2011. Authors must be living U.S. citizens. Authors' first poetry books or books composed of new work will qualify; collected and selected works will qualify **only** if they include at least thirty new poems previously unpublished in book form. A distinguished poet's selected or collected work will qualify for the lifetime achievement in poetry award when accompanied by a note indicating this is for the Bobbitt Prize for lifetime achievement in poetry. To be considered for the Bobbitt Prize a "book" is defined as a collection of printed leaves that have been folded, secured by adhesive along the binding edge (perfect binding; no saddle-stitched or stapled binding), and bound; it must be published in a standard edition of no fewer than 1,000 copies.

The Library of Congress does not require that books submitted for consideration for the Bobbitt Prize forego other competitions; thus, Bobbitt submissions may be, from the Library's point of view, entered elsewhere for any other prizes.

2. SUBMISSION. Publishers are urged to be selective in their nominations. Send **four copies** of each nominated book to: Bobbitt Prize, Poetry and Literature Center, The Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave., S.E., Washington, DC 20540-4861. Books will not be returned.

Include for each title submitted:

- 1) the completed entry form;
- 2) a suggested \$50 contribution to the Library of Congress—Poetry Fund
- 3) a postage-paid postcard with which the Library will acknowledge receipt
- 4) a note, if the submission is for lifetime achievement in poetry

The package must be postmarked no later than **June 15, 2012**.

3. SELECTION. The three-member 2012 jury will make its nomination to the Librarian of Congress in early fall 2012. The Library will announce the winner(s) of the prize to major newspapers and to major literary magazines. On the selected date in the fall, the Librarian of Congress will present the prize to the author(s) at a ceremony, to be followed by a public reading

by the author(s) from the winning book and/or a selection of poems reflecting a lifetime achievement in poetry.