We are delighted to introduce our 2015 Judge - Allison Funk

Allison Funk has published four books of poems: The Knot Garden (The Sheep Meadow Press, 2002); Living at the Epicenter (Northeastern University Press, 1995); Forms of Conversion (Alice James Books, 1986); and The Tumbling Box (C&R Press, 2009). Her fifth book of poems, Wonder Rooms, will be published by Parlor Press in 2015. She is a Professor in the English Language and Literature Department at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

Funk has received awards from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Arts Councils of Delaware and Illinois. She has also been awarded the George Kent Prize from Poetry magazine, the Celia B. Wagner Prize from the Poetry Society of America, and the 1995 Award for Poetry from the Society of Midland Authors. Her work has been included in The Best American Poetry, 1994, and such journals as Poetry, The Paris Review, The Georgia Review, The Iowa Review, and Shenandoah.

Entry Rules

1. Poets may submit up to five (5) poems. Each poem must be the original, individual work of the entrant and must not be previously published anywhere, in any form.

2. Poets may submit entries in one of two ways:
   a. Hard copy submissions (delivered by hand or by mail to Jo-Anne Hirshfield Memorial Poetry Awards, c/o Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201).

      Please note: Two copies of each poem must be submitted on 8 ½ by 11-inch paper. In the upper right-hand corner of each page and only there the following must be printed: name, telephone number, home address, school attended and grade (for school age only) and categories: Adult, High School, Middle School, Elementary.

   b. Online submission: please go to epl.org/poetryawards

3. Poets must reside in the greater Chicago area. All winning poets’ addresses will be verified.

4. The author of any poem awarded a prize, monetary or material, in this contest grants the Evanston Public Library a royalty-free license to publish the work in a program or other official publication of the contest and on the Library’s website. Entrants retain copyright of their original work.

5. Deadline (online, drop off or postmark) for entries: Friday, March 20, 2015.

6. Prizes will be awarded at a program on Sunday, May 3, 2015, at 2:00 PM in the Evanston Public Library’s Community Meeting Room at 1703 Orrington Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201. Winners will be notified in advance.

7. Evanston Public Library employees, Trustees, and members of their families or of the Hirshfield family are not eligible for this competition.