

# 2021 Soul Vang Prize for Poetry

In Honor of Nouchue Vang & Ying Yang Vang

**Deadline: March 5, 2021**

Submit up to three poems to:  
Jefferson Beavers, Creative Writing Program staff,  
[creativewriting@mail.fresnostate.edu](mailto:creativewriting@mail.fresnostate.edu)

Submissions accepted via email only. Submissions should be .doc or .pdf attachments only, NOT in the body of the email or in other formats. On a cover sheet, please include your name, date of birth, mailing address, phone number, and email address. Include your name on each poem. Include "Vang Poetry Prize" in your subject line.

**You MUST be an enrolled student at Fresno State for the upcoming 2021-22 academic year to win.**

Questions? [jbeavers@csufresno.edu](mailto:jbeavers@csufresno.edu)

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Master of Fine Arts Program  
in Creative Writing

The Soul Vang Prize for Poetry will be awarded annually by the Creative Writing Program in honor of poet and educator Soul Choj Vang, who earned his Master of Fine Arts degree and a Secondary Teaching Credential from Fresno State in 1999.

One \$100 award will be given annually to a student at any level. The recipient will be selected on the basis of an excellent piece of poetry that demonstrates significant interest in writing about the Hmong or Asian American cultural or historical experience.

Vang is the author of *Song of the Cluster Bomblet*, forthcoming from Blue Oak Press, and *To Live Here*, winner of the 2014 Imaginary Friend Press Poetry Prize and the first full-length collection of poetry published by a Hmong American. He is also co-editor of *How Do I Begin?: A Hmong American Literary Anthology* (Heyday, 2011).

Vang was born in Laos to Nouchue Vang (father) and Ying Yang Vang (mother), and came to the United States as a refugee child. He joined the United States Army and served in Giessen, Germany and El Paso, Texas. After the army, he returned to college at Fresno State.

An editorial member of the Hmong American Writers' Circle (HAWC), Soul is passionate about fostering the next generation of Hmong American writers. His endowed scholarships and poetry prize are in honor of his parents, with the goal to nurture Hmong American writing.