

## 2019 Allied Arts Foundation Poetry Award Recipient



**Kathryn Smith** is a poet and collage artist in Spokane, WA. She is the author of the poetry collection *Book of Exodus* (Scablands Books, 2017) and the forthcoming chapbook *Chosen Companions of the Goblin*, winner of the 2018 Open Country Press Chapbook Contest. Her poems have been published in *Poetry Northwest*, *Mid-American Review*, *Bellingham Review*, *Redivider*, *The Journal*, and elsewhere, and have earned a Spokane Arts Grant Award and a Pushcart special mention. Her website is [www.kathrynsmithpoetry.com](http://www.kathrynsmithpoetry.com), and she posts collage work on Instagram: @paperhermitage.

**Floating Bridge Press** is excited to announce the recipient of the inaugural Allied Arts Foundation Poetry Award! Curated from our [Evergreen Award Tour](#) submissions, the AAF Poetry Award is given to a single poem of exceptional merit. This year's guest judge, award-winning poet Keetje Kuipers, chose "[Poem for Trending Tragedy](#)" by Kathryn Smith. Congratulations!

Kuipers had this to say: "In a world driven to distraction, it can be a challenge for anything that matters—much less a poem that attempts to discern the value of information—to break through the noise. "Poem for Trending Tragedy" not only illustrates this struggle, it also overcomes it. The poem maintains a conversational tone, welcoming us into a world that includes tragedies both major and minor, from kidnapping to a 'lip-sync fiasco." Yet even the trivial is carefully guarded from flippancy—as the poem states, 'I know what I know / changes nothing.' And yet, this

speaker counsels us to listen more closely, think more intentionally. We're asked to know the world for everything it is, and I'm glad for this powerful voice urging us to pay attention on the page and off."

Floating Bridge Press would like to thank the [Allied Arts Foundation](#) for their partnership in funding the AAF Poetry Award as well as Keetje Kuipers for her time and expertise.



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