

## UPF-Argentina Announces 2016 International Poetry Contest Winners

Miguel Werner  
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**Buenos Aires, Argentina** -- Winners of the eighth International Poetry Contest, organized each year by UPF-Argentina, were announced on September 20, 2016. “*Entonces... Sólo entonces...*” and “*La casa grande,*” by Cecilia María Labanca (Martín Coronado, Buenos Aires province) and Irma Droz (Santa María de Punilla, Córdoba province), respectively, were awarded first prize. This year’s motto was “Peace as the Protection of Creation.”

### Participants and Statistics

The contest is held every year before the International Day of Peace and had 310 participants from 31 countries, including Algeria; Armenia; Australia; Bolivia; Canada; Germany; Honduras; Israel; Italy; Palestine; Romania; Switzerland; and Uzbekistan. The nations with the most entries after Argentina were Spain (31 participants or 10 percent of the total), Mexico (17), Colombia (15), Uruguay (13), Chile (10), Peru (8), Venezuela (7), Brazil (5), Cuba (5), Ecuador (3), and the United States (3). There were two entries each from El Salvador, France, Greece, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and the Dominican Republic.

Argentina had 168 participants from 17 provinces, in addition to those from the city of Buenos Aires (28). The province with the most entries was Buenos Aires (69), followed by Santa Fe (21), Córdoba (12), Chubut (6), Entre Ríos (5), Mendoza (5), Tucumán (4), Neuquén (3), Chaco (2), Corrientes (2), Jujuy (2), Misiones (2), Río Negro (2), and San Juan (2). There was one entry each from the provinces of Catamarca, Salta, and Santiago del Estero.

The greatest number of participants were from the Americas (265), where the majority of countries are Spanish-speaking (language of the poem), followed by Europe (39), Asia (4), and Africa and Oceania, each with one participant.

### “Building Peace” Anthology Cover

In addition to choosing the winning poems, the jury also selected a number of poems that will be included in the Anthology’s themed sections, “Testimony,” “Hope” and “Search and Prayer.” These poems were “*Oración de un niño sirio,*” by Adrián Narváez (Rivadavia, Mendoza province, Argentina); “*Colombia herida,*” by Jorge Fernando Montenegro Ballesteros (Bogotá, Cundinamarca, Colombia); “*Regreso a Tombuctú,*” by Alberto Arecchi (Pavía, Italy); and “*El sueño de Nezahualcōyotl,*” by Emilio Barraza Durán (Viña del Mar, Chile).

In this eighth edition of the contest, plastic artists were invited to submit a drawing, painting or design to be considered for the cover or as an illustration for the interior of the publication that will comprise all the winning and selected poems. “Building Peace” (“*Construyendo paz*”), by Carina Cecilia Ianni (Centenario, Neuquén province) was the winning piece of artwork for the cover. It is an oil painting on canvas.

Of the 28 pieces of artwork received, the following were selected as illustrations for the Anthology:

“*Mundo iluminado*,” by Martha Laroche (Buenos Aires city); “*Paz*,” by Graciela Surani (Villa Ballester, Buenos Aires province); “*Abrazo de paz*,” by María Fernanda Macimiani (Tres de Febrero, Buenos Aires province); and “*Catedral*,” by Claudia Parral (Buenos Aires city).

### **Jury and Patrons**

This year, the jurors were the writer and plastic artist Mabel Fontau, member of the Hispanic Cultural and Literary Institute (ILCH) and Gente de Letras; writer and plastic artist Martha Edith Candiotti, curator and member of the Argentine Society of Writers (SADE) and vice president of the Almafuerte literary group; poet and narrator Graciela Licciardi, member of the ILCH and the A.L.E.G.R.I.A. Group; poet Donato Perrone, coordinator of Café Tortoni’s Lyrical Space and a representative of the Poets Livres group of Santa Catarina, Brazil; and Miguel Werner, secretary general of UPF-Argentina.

The patrons were the writer and poet Juana Alcira Arancibia, founder and president of the ILCH and director-editor of the prestigious international literary magazine, “*Alba de América*,” Brazilian poet Marina Fagundes Coello, a member of various literary groups in the Americas; and writer and poet Nélide Pessagno, vice president of the SADE and senior advisor of El Libro Foundation (The Book Foundation).



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### **8th International Poetry Contest – UPF-Argentina “Peace as the Protection of Creation” Supporting the International Day of Peace 2016**

“Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed.” Preamble of UNESCO’s Constitution (1945)

#### **FIRST PRIZE (Shared)**

ENTONCES... SÓLO ENTONCES...  
Cecilia María Labanca, Martín Coronado,  
Buenos Aires Province, Argentina

LA CASA GRANDE  
Irma Droz  
Santa María de Punilla, Córdoba Province,  
Argentina

#### **HONORABLE MENTIONS**

PIDO LA PAZ  
Raquel Graciela Fernández  
Villa Domingo, Avellaneda, Buenos Aires  
Province, Argentina

HOMBRES DE PRODIGIO

Carlos Alberto Boaglio  
Vicuña Mackenna, Córdoba Province, Argentina

MANIFIESTO  
María Soledad Salazar Valenzuela

Santiago de Chile, Chile  
QUÉ TE HEMOS HECHO, MADRE TIERRA

Federico Miguel Nieto  
San Salvador de Jujuy, Jujuy Province,  
Argentina

#### **SPECIAL MENTIONS**

LA PAZ PROTECTORA DE LA CREACIÓN  
Amparo Bonet Alcón  
Valencia, Spain

**UN BLANCO VELERO**

Teresa Rubira Lorén  
Alicante, Spain

**BUSCA LA PAZ**

María Alicia Gómez de Balbuena  
Goya, Corrientes Province, Argentina

**LA CREACIÓN, EN PAZ**

Stella Maris Zamora  
Lanús Oeste, Buenos Aires Province, Argentina

**LA PAZ EN TU MESA**

Verónica Baeza Yates  
Santiago Metropolitan Region, Chile

**MENTIONS****¡CUÁNTO CUESTA REVIVIR LA ROSA!**

Elena Nilda Pahl  
Río Cuarto, Córdoba Province, Argentina

**RENOVAR LA TIERRA - ROTURAR LA PAZ**

Elbis Gilardi  
Brinkmann, Córdoba Province, Argentina

**VERBO EN EL OLIVO**

Carlos Camilo Torres  
Bogotá, Colombia

**LOS SURCOS COMO ALTARES**

Esteban Conde Choya  
Cerdanyola del Vallés, Barcelona, Spain

**HERMANO, EXTIENDE TU MANO**

Norberto Rubén Calul  
Wilde, Avellaneda, Buenos Aires Province,  
Argentina

**SELECTED POEMS****TESTIMONY Section****ORACIÓN DE UN NIÑO SIRIO**

Adrián Narváez  
Rivadavia, Mendoza Province, Argentina

**COLOMBIA HERIDA**

Jorge Fernando Montenegro Ballesteros  
Bogotá, Cundinamarca, Colombia

**REGRESO A TOMBUCTÚ**

Alberto Arcchi  
Pavía, Italy

**EL SUEÑO DE NEZAHUALCÓYOTL**

Emilio Barraza Durán  
Viña del Mar, Chile

**HOPE Section****ODA A LA PAZ**

Carlos Alfredo Martino (seudónimo escritor  
Carlos Martian)  
Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Argentina

**LA PAZ COMO CUIDADO DE LA****CREACIÓN**

Frederick Thomas Ashby  
Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Argentina

**LOS HORTELANOS**

Víctor Hugo Hernández Rosas  
Chalco, State of México, México

**DE LAS TINIEBLAS A LA PAZ**

Carlos Luján D'Andrea  
Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Argentina

**LA PAZ**

Martha Laroche  
Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Argentina

**SEARCH and PRAYER Section****LA PAZ COMO CUIDADO DE LA**

**CREACIÓN**  
Ana Navone  
Mar del Plata, Buenos Aires Province, Argentina

**LA PAZ, ESE ANHELO, ESA URGENCIA**

Verónica Stockmayer  
Montecarlo, Misiones Province, Argentina

**UNA BANDERA BLANCA**

María Rosa Rzepka  
Florencio Varela, Buenos Aires Province,  
Argentina

**PLEGARIA**

Daniel Horacio Brondo  
Villa Udaondo, Ituzaingó, Buenos Aires  
Province, Argentina

**VOCES POR LA PAZ**

Blanca Lilia Mendoza Hidalgo  
Guatemala City, Guatemala

**ILLUSTRATIONS****COVER****CONSTRUYENDO PAZ**

Carina Ianni  
Centenario, Neuquén Province, Argentina

**INSIDE****MUNDO ILUMINADO**

Martha Laroche  
Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Argentina

**PAZ**

Graciela Surani  
Villa Ballester, Buenos Aires, Argentina

**ABRAZO DE PAZ**

María Fernanda Macimiani  
Tres de Febrero, Buenos Aires Province,  
Argentina

**CATEDRAL**

Claudia Parral  
Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Argentina