

# THE DOROTHEA DIX AWARD

For those who battle or have overcome mental and/or physical illness, disability, or injury.



Paul Kiritsis is pleased to announce the fourth *Dorothea Dix Award* for all those who have overcome or battled mental or physical illness, disability, or injury. For 2023-4, the competition will revolve around Kiritsis's 2023 short story collection *Tales of a Spiritual Sun*. Entrants are required to answer one of the following two questions.

## TALES OF A SPIRITUAL SUN: REVISITING THE HEALING POWER OF MYTH

1. In classical mythology the Judgement of Paris is frequently cited as the event which triggered the Trojan War. The climactic moment comes when Paris, a prince of Troy, awards the golden apple to the goddess Aphrodite after she offers him an irresistible bribe in the guise of the most beautiful woman in the world, Helen of Troy. In bequeathing Aphrodite the apple Paris, acknowledges her as the "fairest" of the Olympian goddesses. What does the phrase "For the fairest" mean to you?

OR

2. Aphrodite, who features prominently in the Eros and Psyche retelling, is the goddess of beauty. Her name in Greek means *foam-born*, alluding to her violent origins and the

inextricable connection between all-encompassing love (union) and the friction of war (separation). Give your own contemporary account of the birth of Aphrodite.

Responses to questions can be visual or verbal, drawn or written. There are no entry fees, however entrants must purchase a copy of *Tales of a Spiritual Sun* and furnish proof of purchase (i.e., receipt) when they submit. Written entries should not exceed 1500 words. They can be emailed to [paul@paulkiritsis.net](mailto:paul@paulkiritsis.net) with "Tales of a Spiritual Sun Competition" in the subject line. The deadline for submissions is May 30<sup>th</sup> 2024. Winners will be announced on July 15<sup>th</sup> 2024 and notified beforehand via email.

**First Prize:** A museum-quality handmade art reproduction of "The Birth of Venus" by artist George Spencer Watson in 1933. The oil painting will be reproduced on artist-level linen canvas by an expert painter. Both certificate of authenticity and award certificate are included.

**Second Prize:** The handmade rose gold and silver apple locket pendant by GemmaJewellery. Award certificate is included.

**Judge:** Paul Kiritsis

#### JUDGE BIOGRAPHIES

**Paul Kiritsis** is a licensed medical psychologist living and working in the Bay Area and the Amazon bestselling author of *Tales of a Spiritual Sun*. He has authored eight books, including the forthcoming *The Riddle of Alchemy*, (2024), and holds postgraduate degrees in psychology (PsyD), medicine (MScMed), history (MA), and professional writing and speech (GradDip). He is also the recipient of 22 awards, including the Paracelsus Award presented by the *International Alchemy Guild* (IAG) for the exceptional academic resources offered on his personal website, *Down the Rabbit Hole*. Kiritsis manages his own YouTube channel where he presents compelling content on mind-matter interaction, psychiatry, psychology, and societal issues.

The Dorothea Dix Award is recommencing after a seven-year hiatus. The three prior competitions took place in 2014, 2015, and 2016. Each of the twelve winners will have their names inscribed on a perpetual trophy and the twelve entries combined will form a core component of a substantial book that Paul Kiritsis will publish on consciousness, illness, and belief.

The winners of the competition will be announced on July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 on Kiritsis's YouTube channel and personal website. Winners will also be informed via email the week before.

Inquiries: 650-619-7825 (US number)

Closing Date: Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 at 5pm PT

Further Information: [www.paulkiritsis.net](http://www.paulkiritsis.net)

Submissions can be sent to: [paul@paulkiritsis.net](mailto:paul@paulkiritsis.net) with "Tales of a Spiritual Sun Competition" in the subject line. Remember to include a signed entry form with your entry.

"I come as the advocate of the helpless, forgotten, insane, and idiotic men and women; of beings sunk to a condition from which the most unconcerned would start with real horror; of beings wretched in our prisons, and more wretched in our almshouses..." –*Dorothea Dix, 1843*



# ENTRY FORM

## Terms and Conditions

1. Entries must not exceed 1500 words (except where the task is art-related).
2. Entries may be an excerpt from a longer work but must also function as a stand-alone piece.
3. The entry must be an original work by the entrant and written in English or with an English translation.
4. Entries must be typed, using 12-point font size, and double-spaced.
5. Please ensure that the title of the work is listed on every page.
6. Do not include your name anywhere on the submission.
7. Please ensure every page is numbered.
8. All entries must be accompanied by an entry form.
9. The submitted entry must not have been published or accepted for publication by any publisher including: online, blogs, journals, and self-published websites.
10. Entrants may submit only one entry per person.
11. The judges' decision is final; no correspondence will be entered into.

This material is my original work. I have read, understand, and agree to the Terms & Conditions. I indemnify Paul Kiritsis against any claim which may arise from any non-compliance with copyright laws. I give my permission to Paul Kiritsis to publish and reproduce my work for promotion and archival purposes and understand that all copyright remains with me. I understand that Paul Kiritsis will abide by Privacy Law requirements and that all private information will be used only for the specific purposes for which it is requested. I understand that this is a competition and that the judges' decision is final and that no discussion will be entered into.

I agree to the rules and conditions and state that my entry complies with these rules and conditions.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title of work:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_