



# The American Iris Society

News & Notes

Special Edition

Iris Awards

August 13 2018

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**Welcome** to a special issue of the **AIS News & Notes** announcing the **2018 AIS Iris Medal Winners**. You can contact either [Bob Pries](#) or [Wayne Messer](#) with your comments.

## AIS Announces the 2018 Iris Medal Winners!

Each year the [American Iris Society](#) judges vote for the top irises in each of the classes based on the **irises performance in gardens**. The 2018 winners have just been announced!

Beginning with the **Dykes Medal Winner - 'Haunted Heart'** by **Keith Keppel** - shown at the right - photos of the winners and all the votes can be seen on the Iris Encyclopedia [here](#). There is also a [printable awards list \(PDF\)](#).



In addition to the Iris Medal Winners for all 15 classes, the list also has the **Walther Cup** (all classes eligible) and has the **Honorable Mention** and **Award of Merit** irises in each class.

**Congratulations to all the winners!**

Did you know that the AIS website has the yearly lists of winners, including number of votes, for 1999 to the present in PDF format on this [page](#)? Go about halfway down the page to find the links.

[Historic Iris Preservation Society](#)

[Reblooming Iris Society](#)

[Novelty Iris Society](#)

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And the **Iris Encyclopedia** has pages devoted to each of the awards with pictures of winners. Start [here](#) for a list of the awards. For example, this is the [Dykes Medal page](#).

## Thank You AIS Judges

The AIS Judges have a difficult task each year. After observing lots and lots of gorgeous irises, they have to vote for which is the best iris this year in the garden for each of the classes. And choose irises to vote for at the various levels, Honorable Mention and Award of Merit before they are Medal eligible. It requires dedication to learning about, growing, and evaluating irises. **Thank you to all the AIS Judges!**



'Future Perfect'

Are you interested in voting to choose which irises become Medal Winners? **By becoming an AIS Judge you will be eligible to vote.**

Learn more from the Judges Training Chair in your Region. Or talk to some of the current judges; [here](#) is a list of the 2017 judges by Region.

Many of the presentations at your Fall Regional Meeting (and the Spring Meetings as well) provide credit as Judges Training so you can start soon. [Here is a list of the upcoming 2018 Fall Region Meetings](#) we are aware of.

Whether you are a judge or not, [everyone can vote in the TB Symposium](#). **Be sure to get your votes to your RVP by September 1st!**