

2022 Santa Fe Reads, NEA Big Read Poetry Contest Winner

2nd Runner-Up
Patricia Hodapp

Drums Calling Across the Years

Heavy pounding beats.

Drums calling across the year
like a beating heart.

In the hands it starts,
pulsing through our veins and brains:
hope___hope___hope

Rhythmic, racing beats
rising like thunder in clouds,
filling all senses.

Heavy pounding beats
echo sounds of hope hope hope.
Memories grow deep.

The strong drum beats
cannot be held in the ground.
it is the river.

Ever rising, it
swells like a tidal wave of
grief and love lost.