
Pro Rege

Volume 42
Number 2 *Fine Arts Issue 2013*

Article 5

December 2013

Receiving the John Calvin Award

Mary Dengler
Dordt College, mary.dengler@dordt.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/pro_rege



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Dengler, Mary (2013) "Receiving the John Calvin Award," *Pro Rege*: Vol. 42:
No. 2, 7.
Available at: https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/pro_rege/vol42/iss2/5

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the University Publications at Digital Collections @ Dordt. It has been accepted for inclusion in Pro Rege by an authorized administrator of Digital Collections @ Dordt. For more information, please contact ingrid.mulder@dordt.edu.

Receiving the John Calvin Award

Mary Dengler

Reward, regard for years of work
With all its ceremony falls
On toughened ears grown used to other sounds
—the strife of *Iliad*, *Inferno*, *Jane Eyre*, *Middlemarch*
And “Can I hand this paper in next week instead?”
It calls me to the front, the podium, where
Handed in a document
Official in a leather good,
Accepted with a speech gratuitous,
It starts to birth significance—even as it’s said—
Then gestates in the mind and grows
A life apart that forms a vine
Around the heart to tease my memory.