

2023 Paterson Student Poetry Contest

Topics: Below are some suggestions. This is your poem so you are free to choose your topic. We encourage you to use lots of details and to use all the senses.

- Use the word LOST in a poem (A time you felt lost, a time you lost someone or something).
- The place you feel most at home.
- A memory of a person who made you feel safe and loved.
- A memory of rain or anything related to water.
- A memory of school.
- A time you felt proud.
- A recipe for your dream or a recipe for the best of the worst day. (Try to use verbs like add/mix/blend/stir/)
- Write a poem where the first line begins with Remember. (for example, Remember the first day of school, Remember how we laughed at the picnic. Remember that I matter.)
- Write a poem with a repetition of the phrase - I miss, I wish. (for example, I miss my grandmother's cooking, I wish I could be eating her special cornbread right now. I miss you. I wish I could be sitting next to you on that porch swing in the late afternoon.)

Style & Format: All poems should be submitted in 12 point font, left margin. Please no fancy fonts or pictures. In the upper left hand corner, type the following:

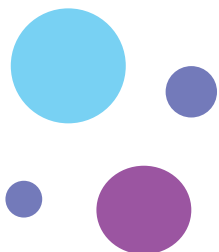
Student name

Home address

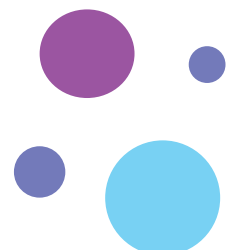
Phone # and email (or parent or guardian's phone or email)

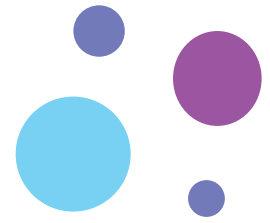
Grade, school and teacher's name.

Please include all of this information or else the entry cannot be accepted! Students may submit a maximum of two poems each!



Passaic County Community College
One College Blvd., Paterson, NJ 07505-1179
tapp-pccc.com 973-684-6555 lisacoll2@gmail.com





Submissions & Parental Permission: *To submit, teachers/librarians should follow the steps below:*

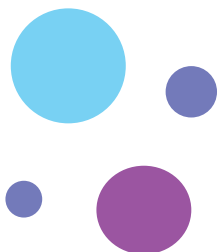
1. Hand out the permission slip on page 3 and have parents sign and return. Poems cannot be published without parental permission.
2. Fill out the form at the following link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSezRiUoaVuh-04cdQ3oe6tpbuEkTT_t090-B5yXs630Uy1Lbyg/viewform?usp=sf_link
3. Compile all student poems into a single document and upload.
4. Scan all parent permission slips and compile into a single document and upload.

Submissions should be entered no later than February 24, 2023.

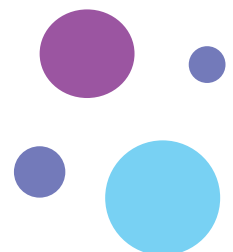
Awards: 1st Prize: \$100

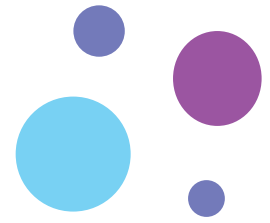
2nd Prize: \$50

Winning entries in each category – 1st, 2nd and Honorable Mention – will be published in an anthology in print and online. Winners will receive checks by mail. Award certificates and anthologies will be distributed to all winners at the annual awards ceremony in June.



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Parent/Guardian Permission

I permit the reproduction of this poem in print, on the internet, or in any other media. I understand that students attending the Award Ceremony may be televised and/or photographed, and that these recordings and photographs may be broadcast or reproduced without additional permission from me, the undersigned.

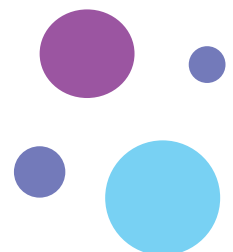
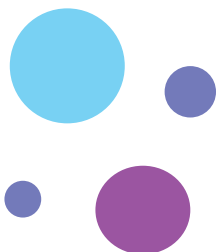
Parent/Guardian Name (printed) _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Parent/Guardian Phone # _____

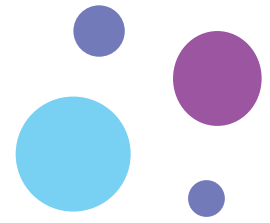
Parent/Guardian Email _____

(We may reach out to inform parents of winners, or to share news about the awards ceremony.)





A Language Arts Enrichment Program

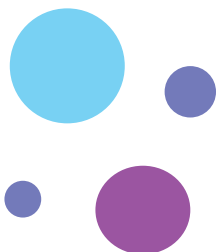


SAMPLE POEM

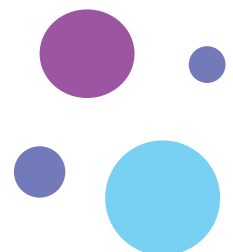
Student Name
Home address, City, State ZIP
Email and Phone #
Grade, School
Teacher's name

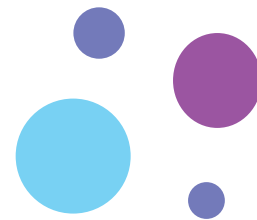
I Am
by Amaya Jones, grade 2

I am smart.
I am beautiful,
Even if no one else thinks so.
I am brave,
I dream big,
Bigger than a normal little kid.
I am kind.
I am unstoppable,
Maya Angelou told me I am phenomenal.
I am helpful,
I can do amazing things.
I can't wait to see what the future brings.
I matter,
I am enough.
In this crazy world we live in,
You always have to remain tough.
I know who I am,
And I know I love me.
A strong, intelligent, phenomenal little
woman!
Who do you ask that is?
I would say
She is me.



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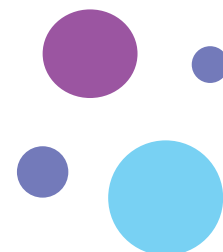
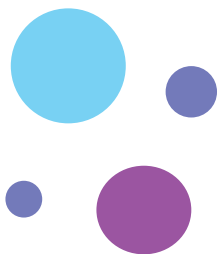


SAMPLE POEM

Student Name
Home address, City, State ZIP
Email and Phone #
Grade, School
Teacher's name

This Piece of Mesh Tells Stories
by Hannah Haman, grade 3

This piece of mesh tells stories.
I love this Palestinian way of art.
How they work so hard,
The beauty of Tatreez is all I can see.
I know this way by heart,
How they put their time into it.
One needle and one thread
Sew an X,
That's all it takes.
Together, the X's can build
A beautiful picture.
This piece of mesh tells stories,
Stories of happiness and joy.
This art can be worn on your body
Or hung up on your wall.
This piece of mesh tells stories.





A Language Arts Enrichment Program

SAMPLE POEM

Student Name
Home address, City, State ZIP
Email and Phone #
Grade, School
Teacher's name

Rain
by Jade Holmes, grade 9

The smooth winds blow through
My dark brown hair
As cold drops of rain
Hit my caramel skin.
I spin and jump around in puddles
While splashing my mom.

My mother shouts at me
For getting her pants wet
But I was so focused on the rain,
I couldn't hear her grumbling.
The sound of the rain
Completely drowned out
My mom's loud voice.

The rain sounds made me feel
Like I was teleported to a strange forest
Where everything felt calm and secure.
Sadly, the sound of the rain ceased
As I opened my eyes and realized
The rain and wind were no longer there.
The calmness was over,
I felt unsafe again as I was transported
Back to a world where I felt I was a target
In certain people's eyes....

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