

POETRY SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE

2023-2024 STUDENT POETRY CONTEST

ABOUT THE CONTEST

High School Division (Grades 9-12) Free Verse Poem: postmark deadline Dec. 22, 2023

Middle School Division (Grades 6-8) Free Verse Poem: postmark deadline Dec. 22, 2023

Elementary Division (Grades 2-5) Any Poem Form: postmark deadline Feb. 16, 2024

Contest Awards: 1st place \$25, 2nd \$20, 3rd \$15, 4th \$10, & 5th \$5.

Poetry Society of Tennessee (PST) will announce winners in spring of 2024. Results will be posted on PST's website at www.poetrytennessee.org/pstcontests. Winning poems will be published in the 2023-2024 edition of PST's anthology, *Tennessee Voices*.

CONTEST GUIDELINES

1. The competition is free and open to all Tennessee students in grades 2-12. Public, private, and home school students are eligible. Each student may submit only one poem.

2. Formatting: Entries must follow the guidelines for their poems to be considered in the competition.

- Your poem must be single spaced, typed in Times News Roman font size 12.
- Your poem must fit on a single page.
- Your poem must have a title.
- Do not include any illustrations or pictures.

3. Submit two copies of your poem for judging purposes.

Copy #1 (the "information" copy) must follow the example below. (see Example Copy #1)

On the top left corner of the paper above the poem note the following:

- division (elementary, middle, or high school) student's first & last name
- student's grade
- name of school
- school street address
- teacher's prefix (Mr/Ms) & first & last name teacher's email

Type and sign the following statement on the bottom of Copy #1 (the "information" copy):

I certify that this poem is my original work and has not been copied in whole or part from any authors' poems published in print or on the Internet.

Signed: _____

Copy #2 (the "poem only" copy) must only include the "division" (elementary, middle, or high school) in the top left corner of the paper above the poem. (see Example Copy #2)

4. Teacher Submission Instructions

- Student work will not be returned.
- Do not staple Copy #1 and Copy #2 together.
- All poems must be postmarked by Dec. 22nd (high school and middle school) and Feb. 16th (elementary). Mail entries to the following address:

Attn: Seth Grindstaff 220 Sunny Slopes Dr. Jonesborough, TN 37659

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Example Copy #1

division (elementary, middle, or high school) student's first & last name
student's grade
name of school
school street address
teacher's prefix (Mr/Ms) & first & last name teacher's email

I certify that this poem is my original work and has not been copied in whole or part
from any authors' poems published in print or on the Internet.

Signed: _____

Poem Title

Poem stanzas....

◆————— DO NOT STAPLE COPY #1 AND COPY #2 TOGETHER —————◆

Example Copy #2

division (elementary, middle, or high school)

Poem title

Poem stanzas...



QUESTIONS? email poetrytennessee@gmail.com
SUBJECT: Student Contest