

**POETRY SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE
STUDENT CONTEST
AWARDS TOTAL \$150 FOR POEMS AND FOR EYE-POEMS**

Deadlines

- **Junior (Grades 6-8) and Senior (Grades 9-12) Divisions, Free Verse — December 21, 2021**
- **Elementary Division, Any Form (Grades 2-5) — February 15, 2022**
- **Eye-Poems (all divisions) — February 15, 2022**

All winners will be announced at the Poetry Society of Tennessee-West Tennessee Chapter Meeting in April 2022, and then will be posted on our website, poetrytennessee.org. Winners of the Junior and Senior free verse poetry competitions will be forwarded on to compete in the National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS) Manningham Trust Poetry Competition, in March 2022. NFSPS winners will be announced in June/July 2022. PST's winning poems (both written and eye poems) will also be published in the Poetry Society of Tennessee's annual anthology, *Tennessee Voices*.

Written Poems

1. The competition is open to all TENNESSEE students in grades 2-12. Public, private, and home school students are eligible. Non-Tennessee residents may compete by joining the Poetry Society of Tennessee as Student Members. See our website for more information:

<https://www.poetrytennessee.org/membership.html>

2. Submit two single spaced copies of each poem. There should be no large or unusual fonts or illustrations. Times New Roman is the suggested font type; no font larger than 12 point will be accepted. All poems must have 1-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides).

3. Identification must be as follows:

One copy must have student's ID in upper right corner. The ID information is student name, student email, school name and address, student grade level, the student's language arts/English teacher's full name, and the teacher's email. An example is shown below:

John Doe
jdoe@mapleviewk12.org
Mapleview Elementary
5 Main Street
Memphis, TN 38102
Grade 5
Teacher: Mrs. Jane Smith
Teacher's email: jsmith@school.edu

Put the division in the upper left corner of **both** copies.

- Elementary — Grades 2-5
- Junior — Grades 6-8
- Senior — Grades 9-12

4. Each poem must have no more than 35 lines (including line breaks between stanzas) with no line having more than 60 characters including spaces and punctuation. Every poem entered should appear on a single sheet — do not submit a poem which is longer than a single page.

5. Entrant must make a declaration of originality. The statement should appear on the bottom of the IDed copy only. The form below is acceptable:

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

Signed: _____

6. Teachers' Submission Instructions. Do not staple the two copies of the poem together. Place the poems without the name in one pile and the IDed poems in the other. If submitting as a homeschooled student or independently (outside of class), please mail to the address below.

Junior and Senior Division Poems should be mailed to Seth Grindstaff at the address below no later than December 21, 2021:

**Seth Grindstaff
PST Student Contest Coordinator
220 Sunny Slopes Dr.
Jonesborough, TN 37659**

Elementary Division Poems should be mailed to Seth Grindstaff (address above) no later than February 15, 2022.

Questions? Contact Contest Coordinator Seth Grindstaff, seth.grindstaff@sullivank12.net

Eye Poem Instructions

1. 8 1/2x11 maximum size.
2. A 1-inch margin (top, bottom, and sides) must be around each eye poem.
3. Additional information about Eye Poems may be found on our website:
<https://www.poetrytennessee.org/eye-poems.html>
4. The original or a color copy may be submitted.
5. Identification information should be taped lightly to the back of the eye poem.

One eye poem may be submitted per student and should be mailed to Frances Cowden by February 15, 2022.

**Frances Cowden
PST Student Contest:
Eye Poem Division
8432 Wood Shadows Lane
Cordova, TN 38018**

For eye poem questions, contact Frances Cowden at [gmoearth@gmail.com](mailto:gmoeearth@gmail.com).

ALL POEMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE DEADLINE.