

Ligonier Valley Writers
presents the twenty-ninth annual
Student Poetry Contest

Categories A-C are open to students in Grades 4-6.

A. Kathleen Brittain and Paul Spencer Poetry Award

Grades 4-6: rhymed verse, any subject

Sponsored by Paul S. Brittain

B. Chestnut Ridge Literary Award

Grades 4-6, Unrhymed Verse, any subject

Sponsored by Lou and Barbara Steiner

C. Hayden Savinda Memorial Award

Grades 4-6: haiku, any subject

Sponsored by Ronald J. Shafer

Categories D-F are open to students in Grades 7-9.

D. Highview Farm Award

Grades 7-9, Traditional Verse, any subject

Sponsored by Sally Shirey

E. Shirey Poetry Award

Grades 7-9, Free Verse, any subject

Sponsored by Sally Shirey

F. Ogden Nash Award

Grades 7-9, Light Humorous Verse, any subject

Sponsored by Anita Staub

Categories G-I are open to students in Grades 10-12.

G. Dr. Len Roberts Memorial Award

Grades 10-12, Traditional Verse, any subject

Sponsored by Ruth McDonald

H. Henry Clay and Gladys Maas Pruitt Memorial Award

Grades 10-12, Free Verse, any subject

Sponsored by Candy Green

I. Marie Martin Memorial Award

Grades 10-12, Romantic Poetry, any subject

Sponsored by Phil and Mary Lou Fleming

Walter McGough Memorial Award

Three poems selected as the best of the best receive a \$20 prize each

Sponsored by the family of Walter McGough and Ligonier Valley Writers

Ligonier Valley Writers thanks all of our sponsors for
their generous contributions to the Student Poetry Contest.

CONTEST RULES

Deadline: March 11, 2020

- 1. Eligibility.** Open to all students in grades 4-12 in southwestern Pennsylvania.
- 2. Limit.** One entry per student in each category. A maximum of 20 lines per poem. For haiku (three lines long), up to three poems may be submitted, all on one page.
- 3. Deadline.** Entries must be postmarked by March 11, 2020.
- 4. Qualifications.** Entries must be the original work of the contestant, must not have won a prize in any other contest, and must not have been previously published.
- 5. Format.** a. Each poem must have a title. b. The poem must be typed or clearly written on one side only of white 8.5" by 11" paper. c. Staple your filled-out entry form to the back of the poem. d. The student's name should appear on the entry form only, NOT on the poem. e. Send only one copy of each submission.
- 6. Winning Poets.** Winners will be notified in April. Prizes will be presented at an awards ceremony at the Greensburg Barnes & Noble at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 25, 2020. The list of winners will be sent to local media and posted on www.LVWonline.org after the ceremony.
- 7. NO POEMS WILL BE RETURNED.**
- 8. Publication rights.** Ligonier Valley Writers retains the right to first publication of prize-winning poets. Authors retain all other copyrights.
- 9. NOTE TO TEACHERS:** Please communicate all rules to your students. Students must choose their own topics, and all poems must be in good final form. Large batches of unedited poems will not be read. You may want to conduct your own class poetry contest and have your students select the top entries to submit to this contest. Parents and guardians: You may sponsor your child's entry by filling in the "Teacher" information on the entry form.

Poetry Judging Criteria

1. Aptness of title.
2. Impact (powerful effect).
3. Effectiveness and meaning.
4. Universality (unrestricted fitness).
5. Imagery.
6. Suitability (appropriateness to contest category and age level.)
7. Continuity of theme.
8. Craftsmanship (aptness of phrase, freshness of rhyme, economy of words, rhythmic quality, appropriate mechanics, grammar).

Poetry Contest Entry Form
Must be filled out completely.

1. Complete a form for each entry. Please write legibly.
2. Print a copy of the poem **without** the entrant's name.
3. Staple a completed entry form to the back of the poem and mail it by **March 11, 2020**, to

Student Poetry Contest
Ruth McDonald
409 Sheffield Drive
Greensburg, PA 15601

Poet's Name

Home Address

City and Zip Code

Parent, Guardian, or Teacher

Parent, Guardian, or Teacher Email Address

School Name

School Address

School Phone Number

Grade 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 [Circle the poet's grade.]

Category A B C D E F G H I [Circle.]

Limit: One entry per student in each chosen category.

Title of Poem

Signature of Poet

Ligonier Valley Writers
PO Box B, Ligonier, PA 15658
www.LVWonline.org