



Delta Festival of Books

Youth Poetry Contest Rules

Eligibility

- The Delta Youth Poetry Contest is open to students in the 3rd through 12th grades.
- Students may be enrolled in public school, private school, or homeschool.
- One entry per student is accepted per year.
- Only single author poems qualify.
- Students may seek input from parents, teachers, and peers.
- Entries can be fact or fiction.
- Entries must be all original work. “Found Poetry” and “Blackout Poetry” will not be accepted.
- Entries cannot have been previously submitted to any poetry contest.
- Poems must be submitted digitally by email to director@newportaredc.org no later than May 13, 2022.
- Each entry must contain the following information on a title page:
 - Student’s name
 - Student’s grade level
 - Parent’s name
 - Mailing address
 - Email address for contact
 - Title of the poem
 - Date of composition
 - Does the poet wish to read the poem at the Delta Arts Festival (Yes or No)?
 - Please do not put any of this material on the same page as the poem, but only on a title page.
- Each submission must also contain the following information:
 - A digital photo of the poet to use with advertising for the show.
 - A biography of between 25 and 75 words about the poet to be used with advertising for the show.
- There is no fee for participation and no purchase of any kind is required.

Poem Formatting

- Text should be typed. Children who cannot type may have their poem typed by someone else.
- Poetry can be written in any language.
- A poem can be written in any style.
- Invented spelling is acceptable, but the intended words of the writer should be clear.
- Copyrighted names, titles, and images should be avoided.
- Poems must consist of at least three lines and not more than 30 lines. No more than 45 characters per line (including spaces).
- Poems that require special formatting to be understood will not be accepted.
- No vulgar terms, offensive language, or profanity is allowed in poems for this contest.

Prizes

- Poems will be separated into three age related categories:
 - Grades 3 through 6
 - Grades 7 through 9
 - Grades 10 through 12
- A 1st place, 2nd place, and 3rd place ribbon will be awarded to each age category.
- One overall “Best of Show” ribbon will be awarded regardless of age category.
- Winners will be announced on Saturday, June 5, 2021 at the Delta Festival of Books.

Agreements by Participation

- Students agree upon submission that the poem is their original work. Plagiarism is considered a disqualifying offense.
- While the students retain all copyrights on the material, by submitting a poem to the contest, they convey the right to the Delta Festival of Books and the Blue Bridge Center for the Delta Arts to publish the poem in print or digitally in an anthology of poems from the contest.
- Poems will be judged by a committee chosen solely at the discretion of the Delta Festival of Books, and applicants agree that their decision is final.
- A 45-minute block of time will be provided to schedule poets for a public reading of the poem at the Delta Arts Festival. If the poet wishes to read, then they will be added to the schedule by the Delta Festival of Books. Their desire to read must be clearly indicated on the title page of their submission or they will not be added to the schedule.
- Submission of the poem and related materials is considered an agreement that allows the Delta Festival of Books and the Blue Bridge Center for the Delta Arts to use the poet’s image and biography in advertising purposes related to the Delta Festival of Books and the Delta Arts Festival.
- For more information call (870) 523-1009 or email director@newportaredc.org.