



POETRY CONTEST GUIDELINES

OPENING DATE: March 16, 2026

CLOSING DATE: April 27, 2026, 11:59 PM PST

Winners will be notified on or near May 25, 2026

Winners will be invited to read their entries at the Milwaukie Poetry Series, First Friday reading on June 5, 2026, at St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church, 2036 SE Jefferson St. Milwaukie, OR 97222, 6:30 - 8 PM.

Finalist Entries will be judged by a local celebrity poet.

POETRY CONTEST GUIDELINES & DETAILS:

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GENRES

- Poetry - any style

ELIGIBILITY AND CONTEST RULES

- Entries must be original work, composed by the applicant.
- Entries must not have been published elsewhere in any form.
- Writers can submit multiple entries but each entry requires a separate application and fee.
- Writers **must work or live** in Clackamas County, Oregon and be at least 18 years of age at the time of submission.
- Clackamas Arts Alliance staff, board, and committee members may not enter.
- Entries will be judged anonymously.

DOCUMENT FORMAT

- Documents must be submitted in .doc, .docx, or .pdf format and names must include only the title of the piece (no identifying information).
- Documents must be formatted using Times New Roman font size 12 with 1 inch margins left/right and top/bottom.
- The title of the piece and page number must be shown at the top of each page. Do not use any other headers or footers.
- Poems must use single line spacing.

ENTRY FEE

There will be a \$15 entry fee per entry, payable at submission. Entry fees are non-refundable.

AWARDS

There will be one First Place winner and one or more Runner Up winners

- First Place winners will receive a cash prize of \$250
- Runner Up winners will receive a cash prize of \$100

COPYRIGHT

By entering this contest, participants grant Clackamas Arts Alliance (CCAA) the non-exclusive rights to post the submitted poems in CCAA publications. Participants understand this authorization will not affect their own rights to, and ownership of, their work. Participants further understand that CCAA may post an image of their work on the CCAA social media sites and website, and that CCAA may, with participants' consent, submit their work to newspapers, magazines and similar forums for publication.

QUESTIONS? Email Clackamas Arts Alliance at info@clackamasartsalliance.org.

Please visit [ClackamasArtsAlliance.org/poetry-contest](https://clackamasartsalliance.org/poetry-contest) to apply

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