

Pueblo City-County Library District

*18<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Poetry Contest*





# Pueblo City-County Library District 2015 Poetry Contest

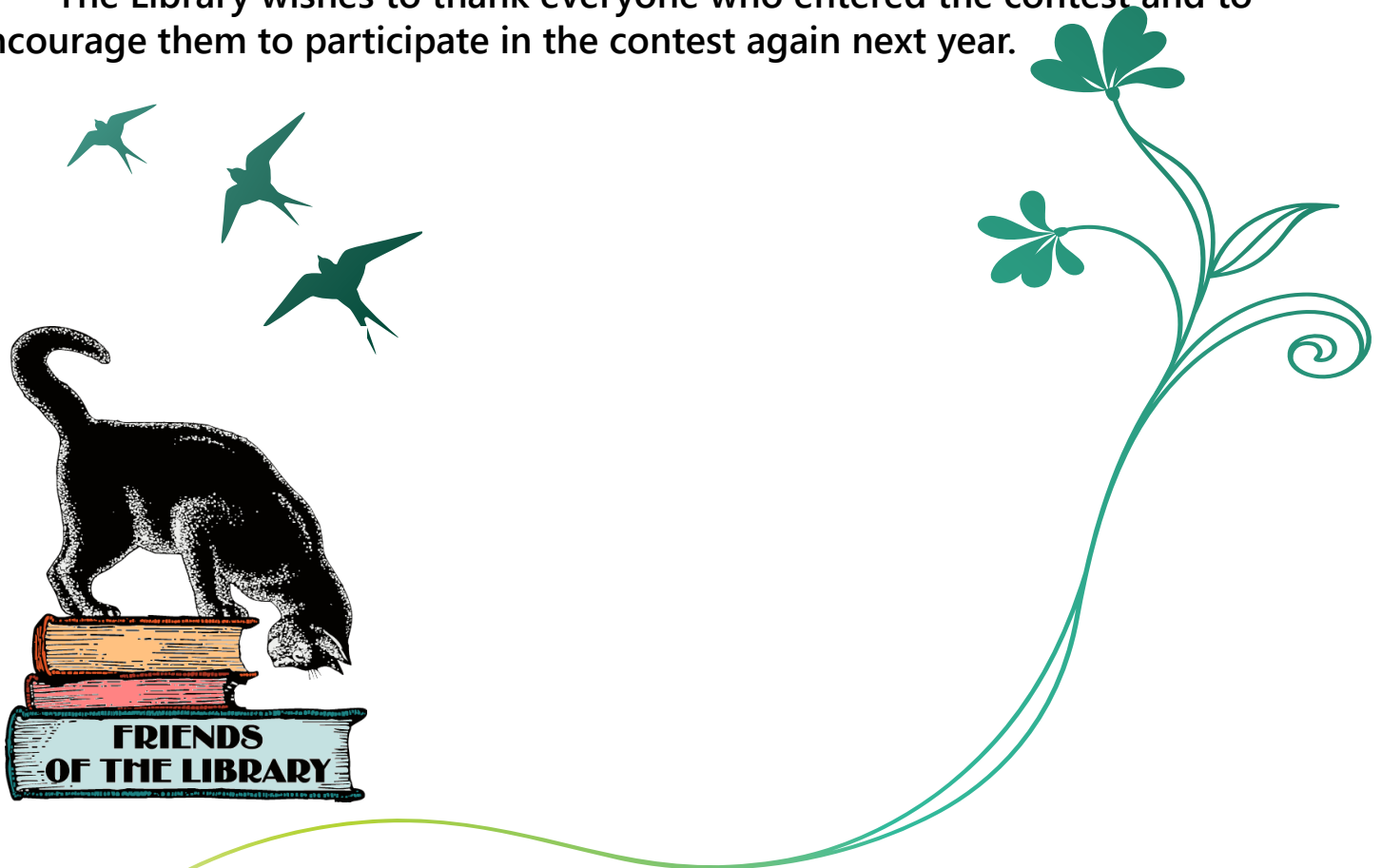
Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

The Pueblo City-County Library District, in cooperation with the Friends of the Library, is pleased to announce the winners of the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Poetry Contest. Poets, from second grade to adult, were invited to enter.

Poems could be about any topic ranging from snakes to the sunrise, happy or sad, rhyming or free form. Winners were chosen from each grade level. Poems were to be no longer than one page, and contestants were limited to three entries.

The poets, whose poems were selected as the winning entries, were invited to read their poems at a special program sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Winners received a \$10 gift certificate to Books Again used bookstore, courtesy of the Friends of the Library. The judges were Friends of the Library board members Monica Ayala, Carol King, Caroline Parsley, Becky Sudduth and Sherry Wingo, and PCCLD staff member Sara Schwartz. There were a total of 857 entries.

The Library wishes to thank everyone who entered the contest and to encourage them to participate in the contest again next year.



# Pueblo City-County Library District

## 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Poetry Contest Winners

### *2nd Grade*

Makayla Jaramillo	Bessemer Academy – Ms. Schwartz
Jayden Palma	Bessemer Academy – Ms. Schwartz
Raelene Sanchez	Sunset Park Elementary School – Mrs. Stinchcomb
Ava Torri	Sunset Park Elementary School – Mrs. Stinchcomb
Louie Trujillo	Bessemer Academy – Ms. Schwartz
Xavier Valdez	Bessemer Academy – Ms. Schwartz

### *3rd Grade*

Zadie Guo	Fountain International Magnet School – Mrs. Benavidez
Madison Howlett	St. John Neumann Catholic School – Mrs. Starcer
Winifred Huber	St. John Neumann Catholic School – Mrs. La Conte
Isaiah Montanez	Bessemer Academy – Mrs. Gomez-Schutte
Isabel Sparks	Homeschool – Ms. Sparks
Elizabeth Welte	St. John Neumann Catholic School – Mrs. Starcer

### *4th Grade*

Taylor Filler	Highland Park Elementary School – Ms. Doverspike
Carson Henderson	Highland Park Elementary School – Ms. Doverspike
Joely Raio	Highland Park Elementary School – Ms. Doverspike
Wilder Unwin	Homeschool – Ms. Unwin

### *5th Grade*

Natalie Griego	Belmont Elementary School – Mrs. Radford
Brooklynn Martinez	Heritage Elementary School – Mrs. Mohan
Elise Mestas	Heritage Elementary School – Mrs. Mohan
Cooper Morris	Sunset Park Elementary School – Mrs. Terry
Madelyn Price	Sunset Park Elementary School – Mrs. Terry

# Pueblo City-County Library District 18th Annual Poetry Contest Winners

## *Middle School*

Sativa Beedy	The Career Building Academy – Mrs. Martinez
Ayrionna Benavidez	Corwin Internatioanl Magnet School – Mrs. Alexander
Nadia Ghambi	McClelland School – Ms. Belport
Ian Habich	Vineland Middle School – Mrs. Chavez
Brandon Herrera	The Career Building Academy – Mrs. Martinez
Natalia Melendez	Skyview Middle School – Mr. McKinsey
Gennie Mae Mikinlani Dolce	Vineland Middle School – Mrs. Chavez
Daria Milliken	Connect Charter School – Mr. Preston
Kalee Thompson	Pueblo Academy of Arts – Ms. Zerfas-Roth
Erik Zamora	Roncalli Middle School – Ms. Vivoda
Aryana Leigh Zeiger	Heritage School – Mrs. Dunsmoore

## *High School*

William Carver	Swallows Charter Acadmey – Ms. Sotelo
Joshua Padilla	Pueblo East High School – Mr. Romero
Dakota Purkey	School of Engineering and Biomedical Science – Mrs. Long
Angelo Velasquez	Pueblo East High School – Mr. Romero
Kenny Walter	Pueblo East High School – Mr. Romero

## *Adult*

Christa Carter  
Edith Edson  
Kristen Johnson  
Sandra LeFebre  
Jillmarie Woods



# *Winning Entries*



# *I Don't Want to Let Go*

*Makayla Jaramillo*

I hug and I kiss when people leave.  
When they pass away, I cry and I cry.  
I love the people who have passed away.  
I don't want to let go.





# *Tornado*

*Jayden Palma*

Tornado, you destroy important things-  
Homes, farms, cars and schools.  
So strong to knock down.



# *Birthdays*

*Raelene Sanchez*



Birthdays are fun!

You can have a pinata.

It is a special day for me in May.

A day to remember-let's play!

# *The Trees*

*Ava Torri*

The wind blows.

The leaves grow.

Hello trees, you help me breathe.

Hello trees, don't make me sneeze!



# *Dirt Bikes*

## *Louie Trujillo*

Dirt bikes start your engines on 3...2...1...

Go!

Here comes the muddy puddle!

Here comes the muddy ramp!

Fly in the sky!

Oh no, one guy is passing me by.

He is one inch behind...

Here comes another ramp!

I am in first place now!

I went past the first flag.

Here comes the muddy puddle again...

The finish line is near!

Louie wins the race!



# *Applesauce*

*Xavier Valdez*

Applesauce, applesauce in a cup.  
I have not had enough.  
It's so yum, in my tum.  
Applesauce, applesauce,  
Give me some!



# Skyscraper

Zadie Guo

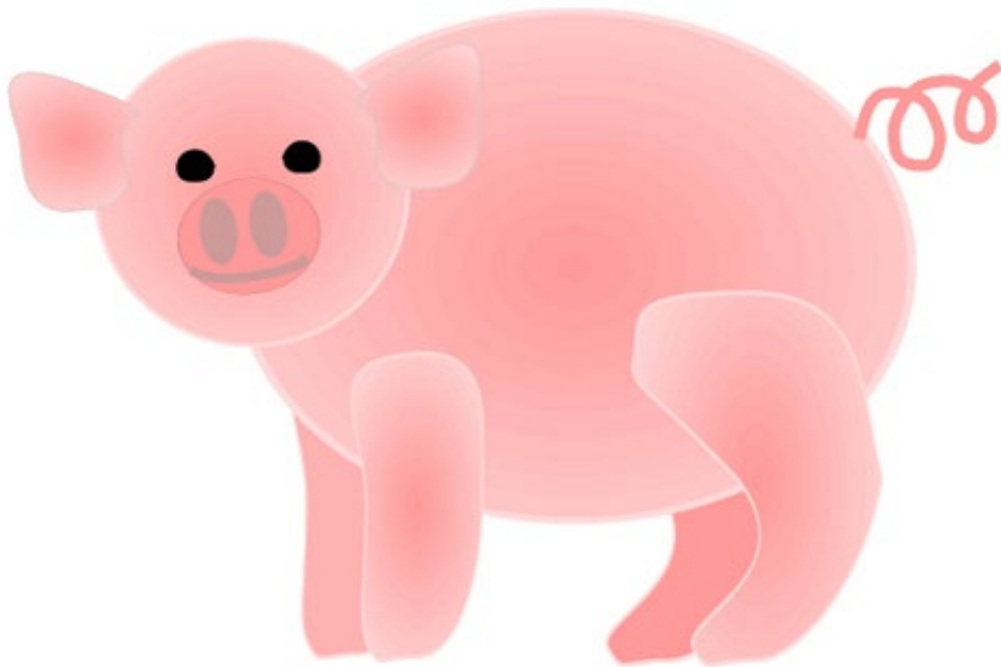
When I told my sister the word skyscraper,  
She thought it was a bug.  
She thought the bug can scrape the sky,  
But no it cannot.



# *Pig in the Mud*

*Madison Howlett*

The pig was pink.  
The pig didn't blink.  
The pig is muddy.  
The pig is my buddy.



# *I'm Here*

*Winifred Huber*

When you are having fun, look up at the sun.

When you are feeling low, look at the ground below.

When you are feeling happy, when you you feeling mad, when you are feeling  
puzzled, when you are feeling sad, I'm here-be glad.

If you want to play all day, I don't blame you-it's okay.

If it's rain or hail, snow or sleet, I'm here, it's always neat.

In the flowerbed, I'm thinking in my head, I love you it's not new.

I'm saying this to you over and over again, I'm here, I'll write it with a pen.

No matter where you are, no matter what you do, I'm here, and you're here too.



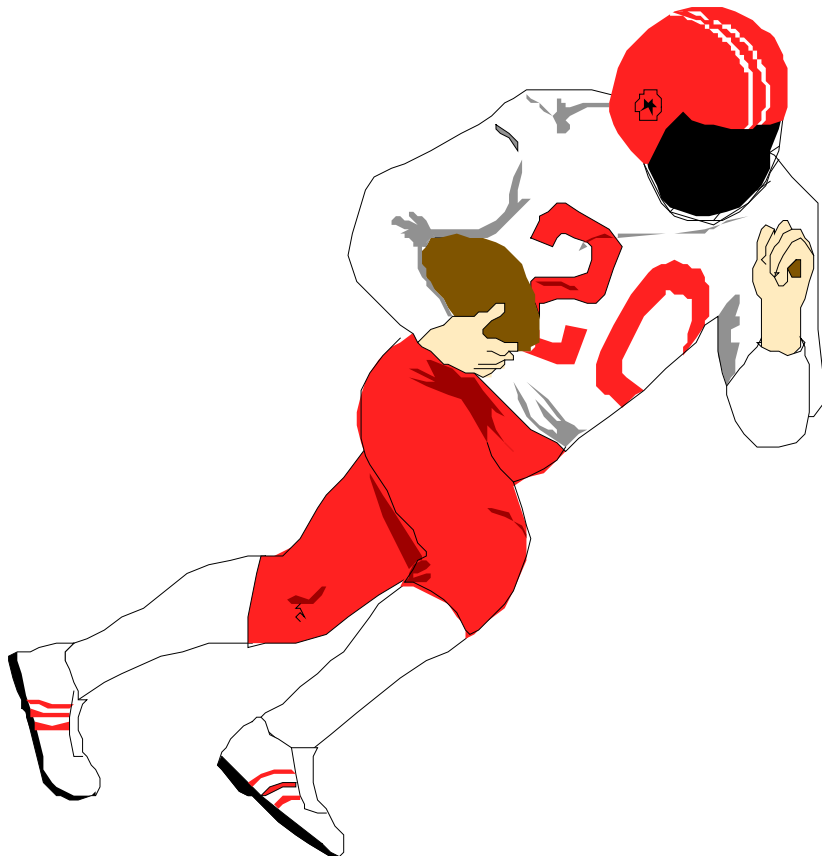


# Football

Isaiah Montanez

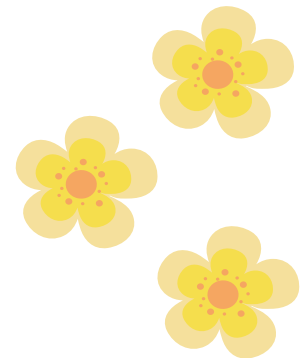
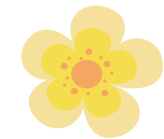
There are fans cheering as their favorite teams battle head to head to win.

There's running, kicking, tackling, throwing and blocking. There's winners and losers but in the end there's only one Super Bowl champion.



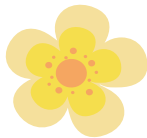
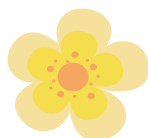
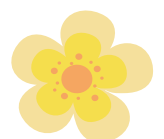
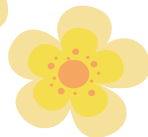
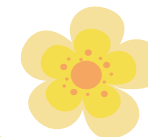
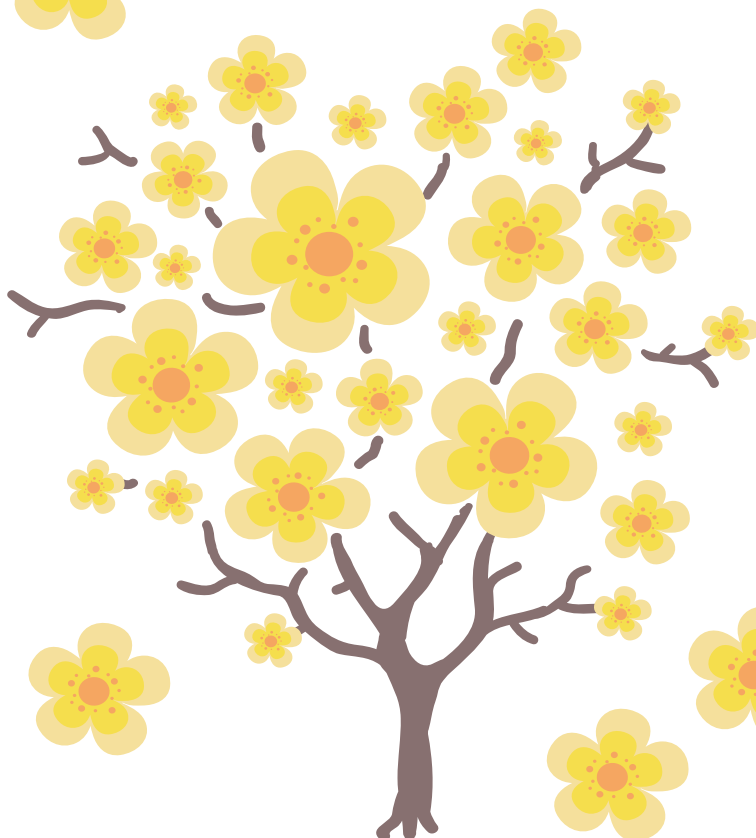
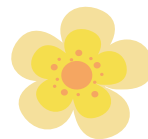
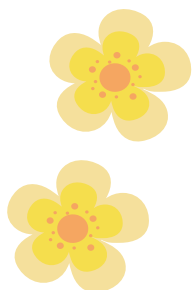
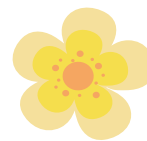
# *Crazy Daisy*

*Isabel Sparks*



Crazy daisy, as crazy as could be,  
Can get a little wacky when there is a bee.  
It wiggles and it jiggles from the tickles of the bee.

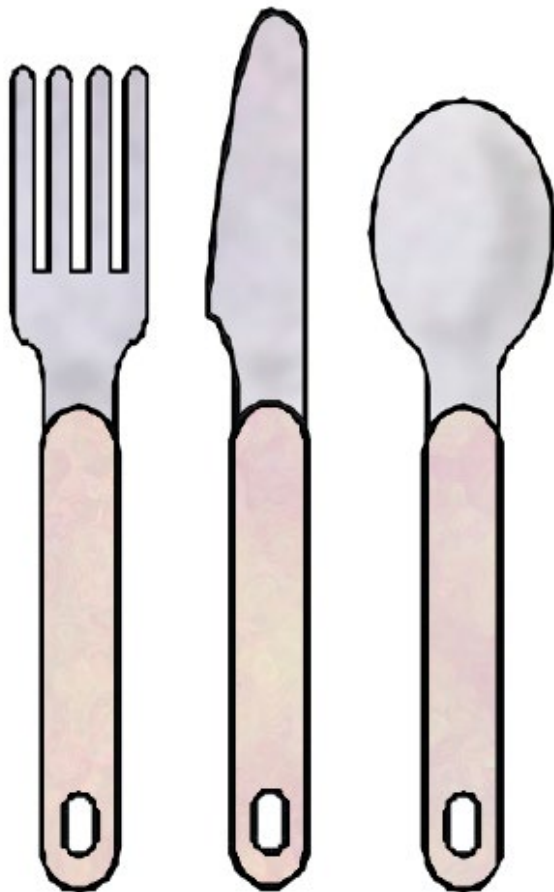
Crazy daisy, as crazy as it can be,  
Can get a little wacky from just a little bee.



# *Ribs*

*Elizabeth Welte*

Tasty meat they are  
But don't get them in your car.  
They take five hours to cook  
So you will have some time to read a book.  
Don't eat ribs in a dress  
Or it will make a big old mess.



# *Summer in the Rocky Mountains*

*Taylor Filler*

In the majestic Rocky Mountains  
on a flaming summer day,  
you'll see people enjoying Lake Isabel  
in all sorts of ways.

Deer fading into the woods as you pass big horn  
sheep side-stepping on the hills,  
wildflowers blooming in the tall green grass  
and towering pine trees standing quiet and still.

See the sun set  
with pretty orange and red  
sit around the campfire  
then head straight to bed.



# *Opening Day*

*Carson Henderson*

Lets go down to the baseball field  
and celebrate the first game of the baseball season.

Going for the day  
to watch the players play for the first nine quarters,  
opening day is coming so get ready for the opening day party.

So lets go down to the baseball field  
and watch the player's play on opening day.



# *Secret Place*

*Joely Raio*

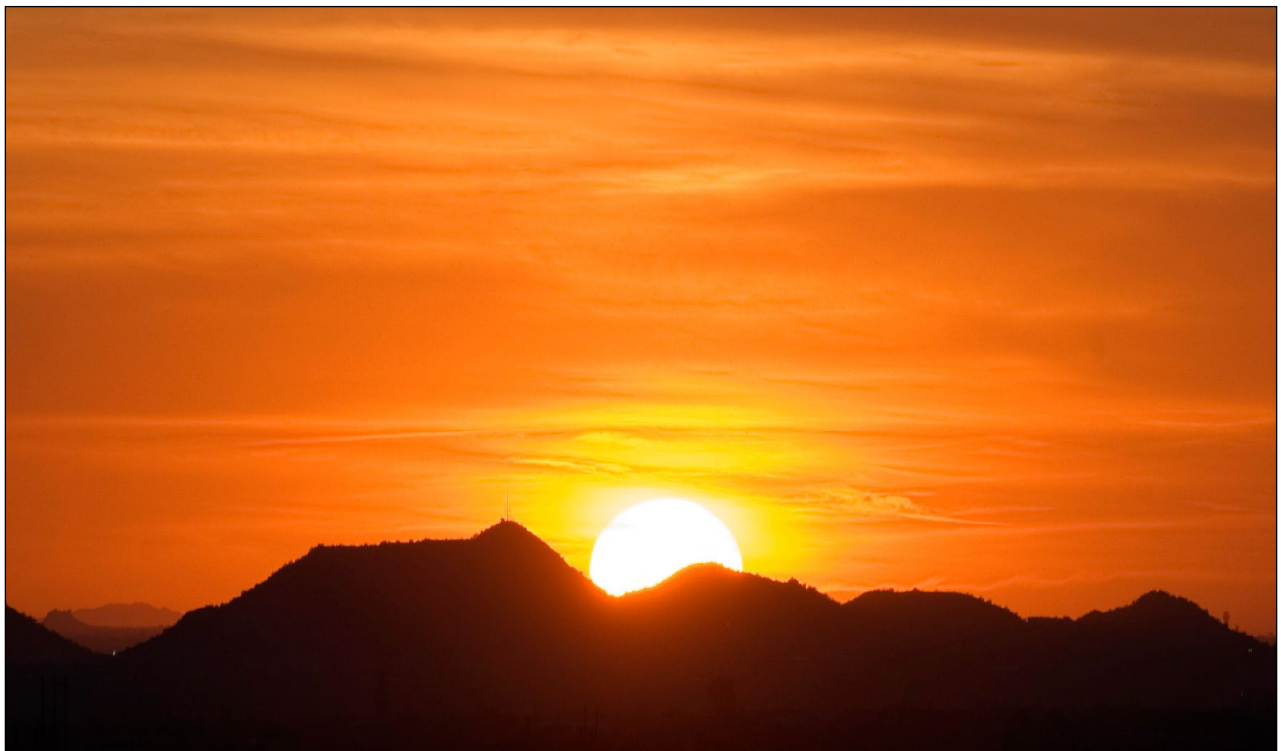
Where you can see the sun,  
it is so much fun.

See dark mountains towering over,  
you feel like a hero with so much power.

A pile of dirt and rocks,  
Many animals are around, maybe a fox.  
Fences so tall that they touch the clouds,  
you are all alone, there are no large crowds.

Great things to do,  
you can even just sit too.

In the secret place you can see the sun set,  
you can see many colors, all the colors of the rainbow, you bet.



# *Soccer*

## *Wilder Unwin*

Awesome, ball,  
cleats, dribble,  
exciting, field,  
goal, hurt,  
injury, jumping,  
kick, lionel, messi,  
nemar, opponent,  
passing, quick,  
running, sporty,  
Team U.S.A., victory,  
winning, x-rays,  
yelling, zigging.



# *Spring*

*Natalie Griego*

New life has come to fields and woods  
Kids venture out in sweatshirts and hoods.

In just a few weeks the river will flow  
Blossoms on trees will be starting to show.

Summer is wating a few months beyond  
To warm the air and the meadow and pond.

There's still a chill in the springtime air  
Winter is gone but the memory is still there.

The long cold winter is melting away  
A single red bird was spotted today.

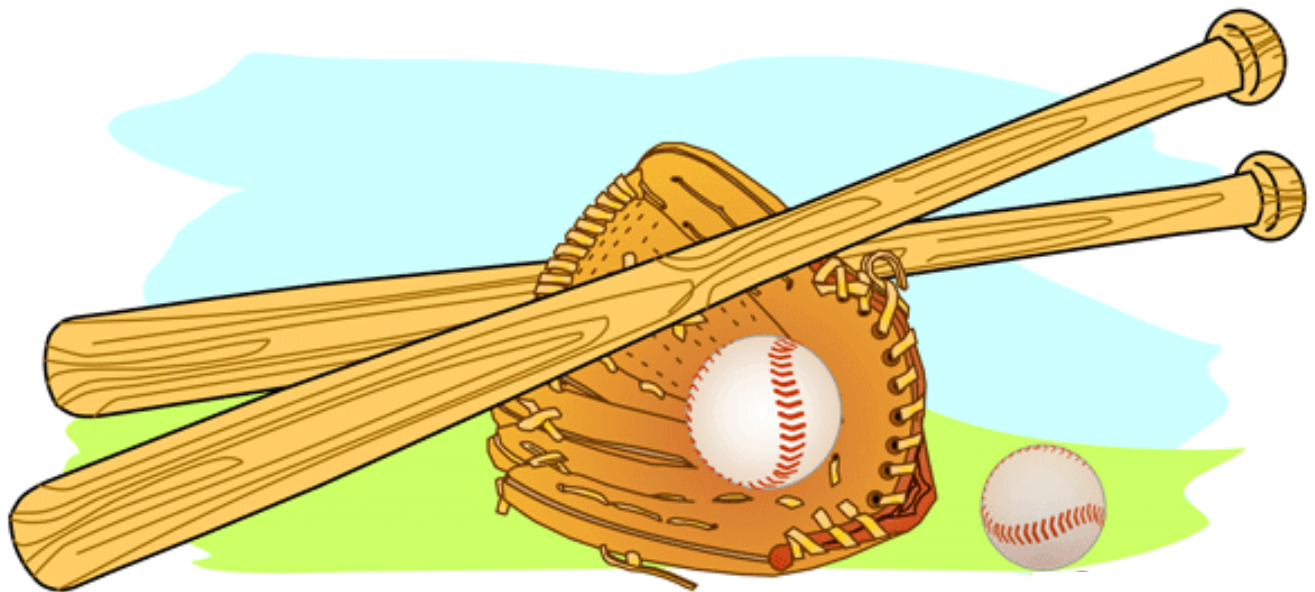




# Softball

Brooklynn Martinez

Sprinting down the dusty path  
After the RBI you just hit  
You can't help but laugh.  
You have a smile the size of a mile.  
The hits are high and the errors are low  
All you want to do is go, go go.  
No more past balls  
We pray that our team will never fall.  
The magical bond between my teammates  
This feeling has never felt so great.  
The memories we make  
We all will embrace.  
As the years go on  
We can all retrace.



# *Pointe Shoes*

*Elise Mestas*

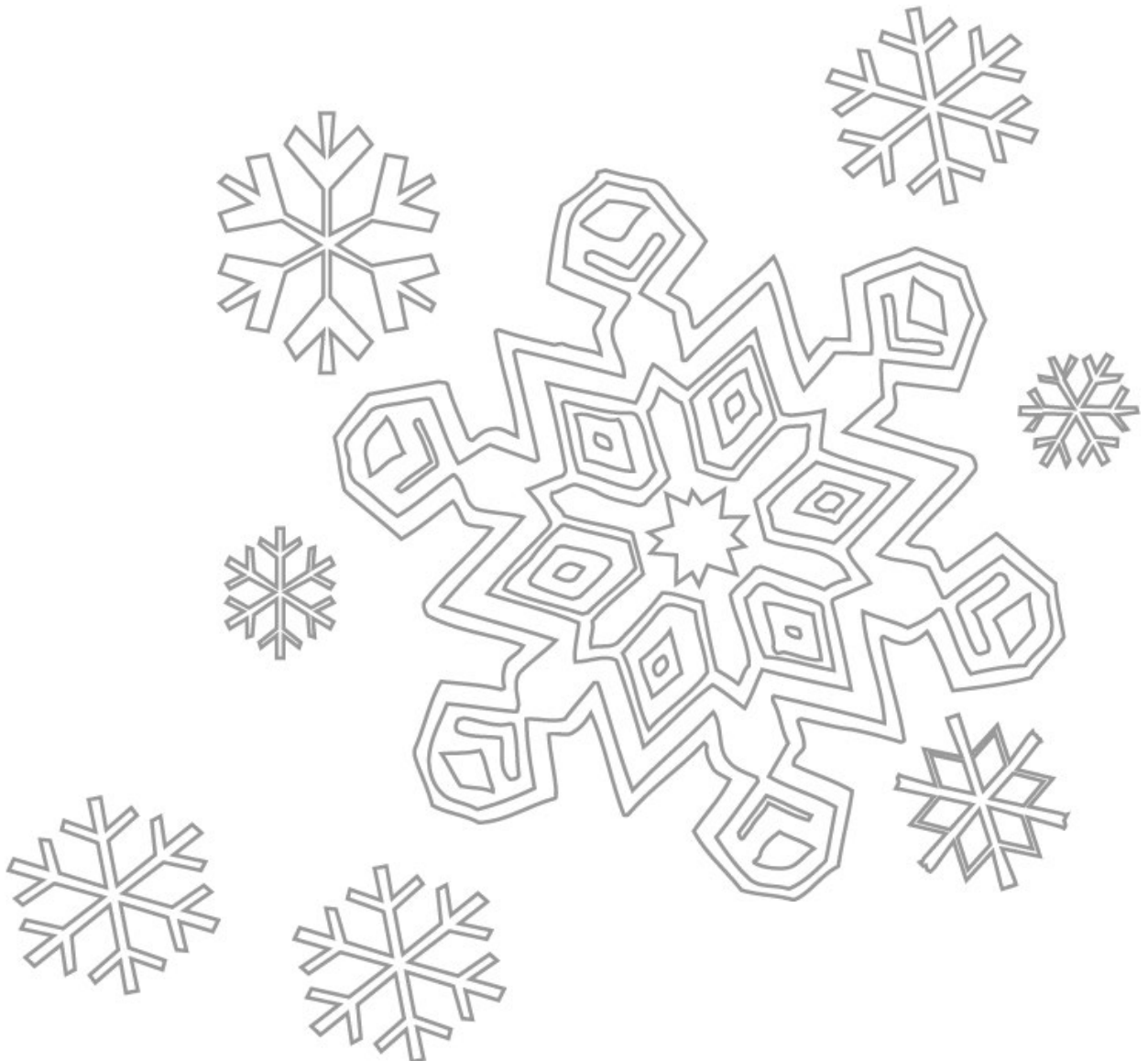
Pointe shoes  
quick, sharp, high!  
Twirling like you are flying in the sky!  
Pointe shoes  
slick, smooth, flat  
Landing, hearing click-clack!  
Pointe shoes  
hard work, frustrating, scared  
It takes hard work to get there!  
Pointe shoes, pointe shoes, pointe shoes  
are in my heart, soul, mind and life.  
Pointe shoes  
I will wear them  
everyday of my life!



# *Snowflake*

*Cooper Morris*

One snowflake may look like the others  
but trust me that he is not like his brothers.  
Every single snowflake is different in its own way  
they all have their own little traits  
and another snowflake is different every single day.  
They set up an example for everyone array  
be together, not the same.



# *Shelter Dog*

*Madelyn Price*

Left at a dump,  
few months old,  
once a stray,  
gone away.  
Picked up by this yellow truck,  
in a cold cage,  
dirty and grey.  
Been here for a while,  
sad old mutt,  
once was patted gently,  
once was happy.  
Now in a shelter,  
cold and dark,  
not adopted,  
lonely.  
Then you walked by,  
my old cage,  
picked me up,  
brought me home.  
Loved once more,  
given a beginning.  
Thank you.



# *Leo's Poem*

## *Sativa Beedy*

Deep in the forest where it can't be seen,  
It hides away from all human beings.  
Never to be seen by the human eye,  
Never to be detected by things nearby.

Scaly and skittish and possibly mean,  
With slit eyes glowing emerald green.  
Gold it hoards for its bed,  
Upon diamonds and jewels it lays its head.

Many a knight fight to conquer,  
But only end up in its dungeons' locker.  
Fire it breathes through its mouth,  
It soars through the air without a doubt.

It feeds on the livestock that graze the land,  
It is tender to the touch of a gentle hand.  
It hunts only at the darkest part of night,  
And it takes great caution to stay out of sight.

It sleeps in a cave surrounded by gold stacks,  
It has big wings, with spikes down its back.  
It has a great knowledge to present when you find it,  
And it has a devil-pointed tail dragging behind it.

Upon the highest level this beast thinks,  
With a feared yet gentle roar it sings.  
With its mysterious magic it must defend,  
Sadly this poem must come to an end.



# *One*

*Ayrionna Benavidez*

All it takes is one,  
One person to fulfill a destiny,  
Perceptions through development of  
cognitive fantasies,  
Fantasies that one day evolve into the  
realm of reality,  
Reality, the canvas of life,  
Painting the course of the journey,  
Identity is life's reality,  
Realities realm of fantasies,  
Fantasies that develop into perception,  
Perceptions that alter destinies,  
Destinies to be fulfilled,  
And all it takes is,  
One.



# *Beaches*

*Nadia Ghambi*

Beaches are so fun  
Sand on my toes, and the water  
Palm trees over my head  
Sandals off, running freely  
The sun is beaming on me



# *The Meaning of Life*

*Ian Habich*

The meaning of life no one ever knows  
Through happiness and sadness you try to make life flow.  
You have good and bad and sometimes even sad  
But in the end happiness keeps you from being mad.  
Throughout your life the meaning comes to find  
When you get close to it you may be closer than you mind.  
But the meaning of life is not how it appears  
If you just keep searching you might just find it in what you call tears.





# *Through My Eyes*

*Brandon Herrera*

I am different.  
I wonder when life will change.  
I see life within awkward range.  
I want a better life for my family.  
I am different.

I pretend to be strong.  
I feel that I am wrong.  
I touch the weeping face of my own.  
I worry my family will see past my hard shell.  
I cry inside so they can't tell.  
I am different.



# *Nature*

## *Natalia Melendez*

The sun awakes in the morning  
The flowers begin to bloom  
The birds fly through a white cloud  
Butterflies spread their wings  
Grass stands tall and beautiful  
The nature is an amazing  
Landscape



# *Self Hate*

*Gennie Mae Mikiniani Dolce*

The feeling of the blade across my skin,  
A small drop of blood drips form my wrist;  
As it falls I think where will it go,  
Who will save me from this pain:  
Thinking of how this world would end,  
I pull my hair out of my face,  
It will be over soon;  
I look out the window at the moon,  
I know exactly what I have to do,  
Stand on the chair and tie the rope around my neck;  
I realize this world is full of sin,  
I sit alone at school, At home I am not loved;  
They're crazy,  
They beat me until I bleed,  
It's all over all gone,  
I kicked the chair out from under me,  
I dangle there until my parents  
Come to beat me once more.



# *Tiger's Tale*

*Daria Milliken*

Rough from being roughed,  
Soft from being pet,  
You are one I'll never forget.

Expressionless and clean,  
Jumping from place to place like a cat,  
You're so lean.

How come you left so quickly?  
How come you didn't stay?

You came for a while,  
And made me grin,  
We made a riot like elephants,  
About keeping you or not.

But then it became quiet,  
You were out of our sight.  
Don't you see we cared?



# *My Big Dream*

*Kalee Thompson*

The bright lights shine at midnight  
Skyscrapers taller than trees  
The moon is high in the dark sky  
People in taxi cabs and busses

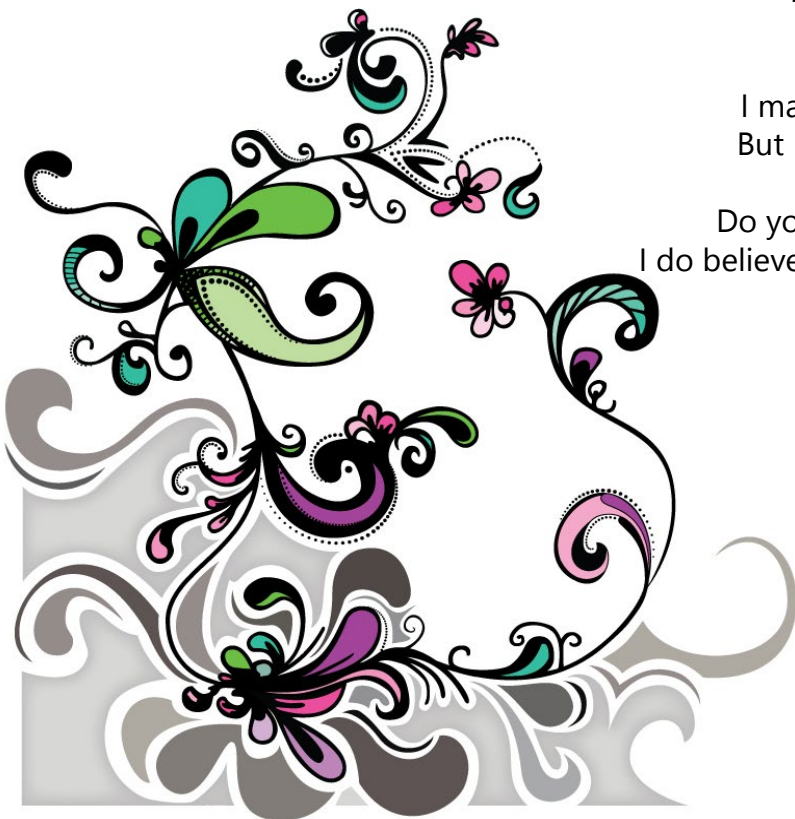
Follow the law as you would the order  
A suspect and the victim of a crime  
S.U.V. do you see the help they need  
Listen to their voice here what they have to say

Someone who has done so much  
One who has made a difference  
She is fearless but with power  
She says no more abuse

The homes are like hotels  
Streets with scattered cars full of people  
People always moving in waves down the concrete  
The big shiny ball falls from a high point

Me, myself and I  
This is me telling you my big dream  
You may think I can't do it  
But wait and see how fast I can  
I may be young and I may not understand  
But I do understand that I can do anything

Do you believe that you can achieve anything  
I do believe you can and here's why you are who you are  
Dont let people bring you down  
Be what you love about your self



# *Growing Up*

*Erik Zamora*

My shoes are smaller.  
In stature, I'm taller.  
A thousand times I've been told,  
As I grow old.  
The refrigerator is no longer such a  
Monumental height.  
The raindrops no longer come as such a fright.  
I look in the mirror.  
My appearance is dearer.  
Connection is vital,  
And no longer spitetful.  
Bias is rampant.  
Regret, I have it.  
Can it be said  
That I've a bounty on my head?  
By me in fact,  
To make up for what I lacked?  
Encased in a shell of expectations.  
Its influence, spread across the nations.  
It asks children to sacrifice curiosity and dreams.  
I want so bad to break from these seams.  
No longer stuck in a balance  
Of innocence and hate.  
No longer able to escape  
From a child's inevitable fate.



# *Nightlight*

*Aryana Leigh Zeiger*

Nighttime was near.  
Meadows were clear.  
Death of the night appeared.  
Dogs are howling.  
Bears are growling.  
When will the sun appear?  
Children at fright sleeping tonite.  
Nighttime was here.



# *Nature*

## *William Carver*

There is no noise  
except the soft waves  
and the wind whispering  
to wait.

The birds chirp,  
stealing the absence of noise  
and replace it with  
the cries of joy and happiness  
they still have.

The trees agree, as the wind whooshes  
on to its leaves, to be quiet  
and one by one,  
they disappear  
for winter.

There is now  
no voice or noise  
but only the soft pelt  
of snow landing on the ground  
and winter has arrived.





# *Queen of Hearts*

*Joshua Padilla*

You are my queen  
They say we're too young  
Yet there is no age to love or war  
Love is the only reliable human sensation  
Every day I am gravitated towards the love  
The love that binds me sharply behind you  
Only behind so I can worship the earth you step upon  
You are my queen  
Worshiped by many yet noticing miniature entities  
Powerful yet needed to be protected  
Boundlessly beautiful yet needs to be reminded  
Immensely intelligent yet confined by her own conviction  
Is it fair for the most beautiful girl on earth to withstand pain  
Or is it fair that life traps us in tow opposing cages  
You are my queen  
The relation that is bound to us is the so called "love"  
That we are too young to feel  
Age is but a number  
But a number cannot calculate the infinite love I have for you  
You are my queen



# *Where I Am From* *Dakota Purkey*

I am from the trees of the Rocky Mountains  
The scent of sagebrush in the air  
I am from the songs of Willie Nelson and Hank Williams  
Fleetwood Mac and Foreigner  
I am from the pavement of Pueblo  
Longboards and Skateboards  
Pushing Mongo and Hill Bombing  
Scrapped knees and skinned up hands  
Reggae and Rasta  
I am from the Sublime and Pepper  
Lacrosse cleats and running shoes  
From fishing poles and lakes  
I am from hot spaghetti and cheesy raviolis  
The scent of fired gunpowder  
The taste of Red Beans and Rice on New Year's Day  
I am from the top of a mountain to the meadow at the bottom  
The snow in the forest early on a winter morning  
I am from the heat on a summer day  
Hot Toddies and hunting camp  
I am from Elk and deer  
Ducks and Geese  
I am from my Dad's humor and my mom's advice  
I am from my past  
And I will be my future.



# Love Poem

## Angelo Velasquez

Love has no age  
Communication lacks  
Though, the simplicity of love never fades  
With every meal, the extravagance is no longer present  
Surprises are rare  
Gifts go from that beautiful teddy bear, to casual love notes with flowers

They sit across from each other,  
At the little old diner where they first met  
Replaying the first time in their head, examining each other  
Their happiness showed by the sparkle in their eyes  
In that same little booth, little conversation arised  
Smiling was the main action taking place.

Love has no age  
Through all the rainy days and hard times  
Cold and warm weather both spent all of their time together  
Fulfilling their faithful vows  
Taking care of each other, through sickness  
Loving one another until the end

Functioning without the other would be impossible  
Two days after the first, both were at peace  
One died of a heart break, only to see the other again  
They were buried next to each other  
To eventually continue their journey up above  
Love has no age.



# *The Robin, the Raven and the Dove*

## *Kenny Walter*

There is an egg in the nest,  
high above the hustle and bustle of the streets,  
which holds a beautiful creature,  
A Robin  
Her mother takes care of her in her young age  
and she takes care of her mother in old age.  
Together, they live happily and quietly  
until the end

And so the nest is abandoned.  
In flies the night,  
like a swarm of bats, yet,  
with more prominence and with more power  
The Raven

He hymns a macabre tune,  
Reminiscent of an organ being played  
At a Cathedrals funeral.  
Yet one day, the music stops.  
And so, the nest is abandoned.  
A single, white feather flutters down,  
Slowly, with the grace of a saint,  
and the beauty of a rose.  
The Dove

She's the last to visit the nest.  
The final reassuring symbol, that everything  
has peace.  
She is the last bird in the baby Robin's nest.  
And so, the nest is abandoned.



# *Songbird*

*Christa Carter*



If I were a bird  
I would be  
An eagle soaring  
so and free  
High above all of society  
doing just what pleases me.  
No one to answer to, no one to impress  
Being me  
carefree and careless.  
But being a loner, is it really my way?  
I'd probably last for only one day.

Maybe I could be, a great horned owl...  
Sitting patiently and wise,  
Listening and waiting  
For my tasty four-legged prize.  
I sit on my perch like a harvest moon,  
my feet as strong as the sun at noon.  
Weighing in at nearly two pounds,  
I fly through the night  
without making a sound.  
Patient-wise-quiet as can be  
Hmm...that doesn't sound at all like me.

How about a songbird?  
So soft,  
So sweet.  
Lulling the forest creatures  
with my lovely beat.  
Singing songs from August to June.  
I am a tiny bird  
with a cheerful tune.

From my nest I can see the others out there;  
waiting to hear what I have to share.  
Ahh, this might be the bird I am like the most...  
A songbird whistling melodies from my old pine post.

# *Eye-Openers*

## *Edith Edson*

We call you handicapped  
Yet you do things  
Many only dream of.  
Tour boat guide;  
Quick to spot eagles or turkey vultures,  
Adept at snubbing a line.  
You water ski  
With only on leg.

We call you handicapped  
But you raise plants  
And can your own peaches.  
Homemaker;  
Quick of mind, conscious of current events,  
Inspiration to your friends,  
You conquer life  
With unseeing eyes.

We call you disabled,  
But you run races  
And play good basketball.  
Business manager,  
Quick to mentor young entrepreneurs,  
Active in civic affairs,  
You do all this  
Using a wheelchair.

We call you disabled,  
But it is we  
Who lack clear vision.  
Complainers;  
Quick to criticize and find fault,  
Crippled by indecision.  
We go through life  
Unhearing, limping, and blind.



# *Vietnam*

## *Kristen Johnson*

Such a different Vietnam  
than the one my father went to forty-five years ago...

Sightseeing brings me here-  
a war brought him.

I visit villages and shrines-  
he waded through rice paddies and jungles.

I meet people with smiling faces and good  
he saw eyes full of fear and hate.

I walk in the rain-  
he marched through monsoons.

I raise my camera to capture the scenery-  
he raised an Ak-47 to kill the enemy.

I stroll through marketplaces-  
he crawled into foxholes.

I take home trinkets and souvenirs-  
he brought home malaria and nightmares

I see the beauty-  
he saw the horror.

I am a tourist-  
he was a tunnel rat.

I will return-  
he prays he won't see it again when he closes his eyes.



# Who's There?

*Sandra LeFebvre*

You're sound asleep, all snug in your bed,  
When you're awakened, heart pounding with dread.  
Was that your gate, your just heard give a squeak,  
Was that a footstep, should you take a peek?  
Thump, did something just hit your front door?  
With great trepidation, your feet hit the floor.  
As you arise, leaving your courage in bed,  
Your mind recalls the thriller you read.  
In the still of the night, yes, footsteps you hear,  
Are they coming or going, are they far or near?  
Hearing the gate give a squeak once more,  
Your look through peep-hole in your front door.  
There he goes, he's not even trying to hide.  
He's crossing the street to the other side.  
It's then a streetlight removes fears barrier,  
And you recognize the newspaper carrier.





# *A Star Apostrophe*

*Jillmarie Woods*



O star! Where are you now?  
Remember when you first came into my life? How we  
danced well into the night-how you shined so bright! My knight  
in armor. O star! Where are you now?  
You towered above me-guiding me-leading me to heavenly  
heights. Your eyes sparkled every time they looked at me. Sometimes  
a mischievous twinkle crossed your face  
before you kissed me. O star! Where are you now?  
Your dazzling brilliance filled me as much as  
10,000 suns! I look for you nightly...  
O star! Where are you now? Traveling through the sky-light  
years away-how I wish you would return.  
O star! Where are you now?

