

Pueblo City-County Library District

# 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Poetry Contest



Sponsored by

Linda Crawford



# Pueblo City-County Library District 2017 Poetry Contest

Pueblo City-County Library District, in cooperation with Friends of the Library, is pleased to announce the winners of the 20<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 an awards ceremony. Winners received a \$10 gift certificate to Books Again used bookstore, courtesy of Friends of the Library. The judges were Friends of the Library board members Eileen Arnot, Monica Ayala and Becky Sudduth, and PCCLD staff members Sara Schwartz and Courtney Woodka. There were over 1,200 entries this year.

The library wishes to thank everyone who entered the contest and encourages them to participate again next year!



Pueblo City-County Library District  
20<sup>th</sup> Annual Poetry Contest Winners

*2<sup>nd</sup> Grade*

Sheridan Burke	St. John Neumann Catholic School – Dr. Ricotta
Nevaeh Gonzales	Fountain International Magnet School – Mrs. Oreskovich
Josiah Jiron	Sunset Park Elementary School – Mrs. Stinchcomb
Landon Martinez	Sunset Park Elementary School – Mrs. Kliesen
Rex Rhoades	Sunset Park Elementary School – Mrs. Kliesen

*3<sup>rd</sup> Grade*

Gianna Hanes	Goodnight School – Mrs. Reneau
Dermot McCarthy	St. John Neumann Catholic School – Mrs. Starcer
Logan Stapleton	Fountain International Magnet School – Mr. Hund
Peyton Vialpando	Vineland Elementary School – Mrs. Vallejos

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade*

Allison Austin	Highland Park Elementary School – Ms. Ribal
Abrianna Cortez	Belmont Elementary School – Ms. Meier
Michael Flores	Chavez Huerta Preparatory Academy – Mrs. Cruz
Presley Johnson	Cedar Ridge Elementary School – Mrs. Schirmer

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade*

Dakota Cordova	Sunset Park Elementary School – Mrs. Hertneky
Monica Ann Gillis McCann	Prairie Winds Elementary School – Mrs. Pacheck
Madasyn Haynes	Prairie Winds Elementary School – Ms. Bernstein
Tyler Lovett	Prairie Winds Elementary School – Mrs. Fletcher
Katie Valdez	Heroes K-8 Academy – Mrs. Martinez

Pueblo City-County Library District  
20<sup>th</sup> Annual Poetry Contest Winners

*Middle School*

Elle Adams	Vineland Middle School – Mr. Schornack
Sadie Kovtynovich	Vineland Middle School – Ms. Frank
Brooklyn Phillips	Connect Charter School – Mrs. Wood
Porter Sonntag	Connect Charter School – Mr. Preston
Samantha Strasia	Connect Charter School – Mrs. Wood
Rudy Valenzuela	Beulah School of Natural Sciences – Mrs. Lara
Elizabeth Wakefield	Swallows Charter Academy – Mr. Storey

*High School*

Alissa Lopez	Central High School – Mrs. Canchola
Emily Lucero	South High School – Mrs. Vertovec
Brianna Montoya	Central High School – Mrs. Canchola
Jose Moreno	East High School – Ms. Vivoda

*Adult*

Bennie Barbara Dahlquist
Geraldine Easton Smith
Edith Edson
Cindy Jones
Mary Yarn

# *Winning Entries*





# *Katydid*

*Sheridan Burke*

**K**ind of insect

**A**bility to hide on leaves

**T**rees, twigs and flowers

**Y**ellow it can be

**D**ines on greenery

**I**nvisible where it sits

**D**isguise protects it



# *Cats*

*Nevaeh Gonzales*

My favorite animal in the world are cats.

I like them more than bats and I like them way more than rats.

I enjoy petting their nice, soft fur.

When I pet their fur, they start to purr.

I like their little, soft paws but I don't like when they pull out their claws.



# *Easter Bunny*

*Josiah Jiron*

Look and see is he coming to me?  
The Easter bunny, yes, it could be!  
He brings me gifts of candy and treats.  
All while hopping on his two little feet.  
Eggs with color, eggs with sprinkle,  
My eyes grow wide and start to twinkle.  
He is done with his job, delivering eggs to me,  
on to the next house, just wait and see.



# *Sports*

*Landon Martinez*

Playing sports is really fun,  
In soccer I kick and run in the sun.  
In football I love to make touchdowns,  
I race down the field and stay in bounds.  
For basketball I jump to the hoop and slam dunk the ball,  
I dribble real fast, it helps that I'm tall.  
I learn teamwork while playing sports,  
All year long on the field and courts.





# *My First Day at Monarch*

*Rex Rhoades*



Ski, ski  
Fast, fast,  
Zooming through  
Black Diamond pass...  
Behind the wittles,  
Before the sash.

I love the snow,  
I play all day,  
In a merry, merry way.

When I dream,  
Here I go!  
Down the hills of  
Black Diamond snow.



# *Untitled*

*Gianna Hanes*

We play all night  
and laugh and laugh.  
We don't start fights  
in the warm and cozy nights.



# *I Wish I Was*

*Dermot McCarthy*

I wish I was a jet,  
Who knows where I'll get.  
I'd fly so high,  
way up in the sky.  
The pilot said zounds,  
the fire alarm sounds.



# *The Sea*

*Logan Stapleton*

The sea shines before me,  
it rocks the water at a steady beat,  
keeping it aglow,  
tracing the sandy shore with footprints  
laying in the sand ready to be swept away  
by the waves lapping by.





# *Competition Time*

*Peyton Vialpando*

"We are going to compete!" said the costume sheet.  
"Did you hear the news?" asked the jazz shoes.  
"Here come the cars!" said the ballet bars.  
"Can you hear?" asked the mirror.  
"It's time for class to start!" said the makeup art.  
"I am excited to compete!" said the costume sheet.  
"We can win!" said the costume bin.  
"Well, I can't twirl," said the girl.  
"Use all your might!" said the light.  
"You can practice on the door," said the floor.  
"I don't care!" said the chair.  
"Don't be blue!" said the tap shoe.  
"Do it right!" said the light.  
"The dance looks good!" said the hood.  
"It's time to compete!" said the costume sheet.



# *Untitled*

*Allison Austin*

I think of you,  
My beauty of the sunset.  
When I look at your shine back at me,  
You give me a breeze once in awhile.  
And that breeze is the love of nature.  
When you meet the sky you make it beautiful,  
There is no better sight in the world.  
And when the day ends, I will miss you.  
But thankfully I will see you the next day.  
And when I do it will be the beautiful day it was yesterday.

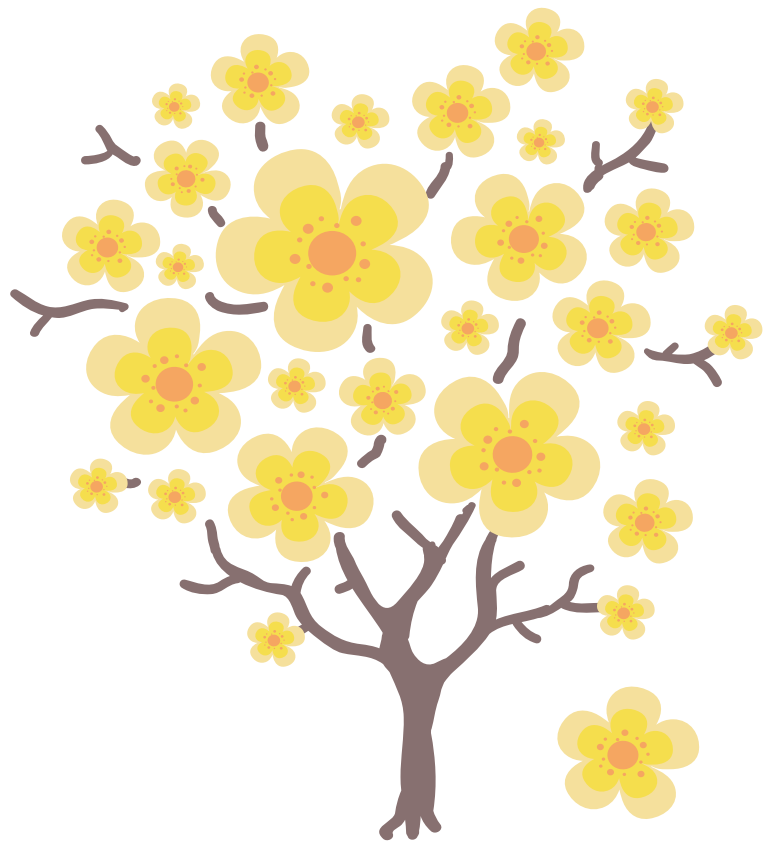


# *Spring is Here to Stay*

*Abrianna Cortez*

Spring is here,  
Spring is here.  
Goodbye snow,  
Flowers grow.

Birds and bees,  
leaves on trees.  
Hello, spring  
Hello, spring



# *Heavy Rain*

*Michael Flores*

The heavy raining made it sad.  
The heavy raining made it muddy.  
The raining made it lonely.  
It never stopped and it kept going.  
The rain was rapid,  
it's always sad when it's raining heavily.



# *Piñata!*

*Presley Johnson*

Crack!  
The donkey had been hit.  
Whack!  
It must have been terribly funny.  
Swoosh!  
It didn't just hurt a bit.  
Bang!  
Out fell candy not money.  
Ha!  
The kids knocked the donkey off his rope.  
Boom!  
The donkey fell down to the ground.  
Rumble!  
The kids trampled to him in hope.  
Munch!  
The donkey then met the boy's hound.  
Crunch!  
Poor donkey had been eaten.  
Gulp!  
By the birthday boy's dog.  
Burp!  
The dog ate the candy, the piñata and the rope -  
What a hog!



# *List Poem*

*Dakota Cordova*

Things that I love  
When dogs lick me  
Babies eating  
Puppies playing  
Good food  
Music  
Smell of the mountains





# *Puppy*

*Monica Ann Gillis McCann*

Soft and fuzzy like bunnies,  
small but cute, very bright.

Blue eyes,  
short but very happy tail.

Very lovey dovey,  
and very playful.

Very sweet and kind,  
love you pup.



# *Music*

*Madasyn Haynes*

Music fills your ears,  
and warms your heart.  
Makes an up-side-down day magical.

Music inspires and soothes.  
There's many types of music,  
for many types of souls.

When you listen,  
you can be yourself  
and be happy.  
So turn up the music  
and be free.



# *Homework*

*Tyler Lovett*

Homework is boring,  
I wish it could go soaring.  
Out of my room,  
Maybe I can use a broom.



# *Friends*

*Katie Valdez*

Friends are here.  
Friends are here.  
Friends are everywhere.  
Friends are nice.  
Friends are kind.  
Friends are one of a kind.  
Friends help you when you are sad.  
Friends are there when you are mad.  
Friends are easy to love.  
Friends are hard to get.  
Friends are true.  
Friends don't lie.  
Friends are what you make.  
Friends you don't buy.





# *Milking*

*Elle Adams*

5 a.m. this just can't be  
It always has to be so early  
I'd like to sleep but they won't let me.  
The goats I milk are coming to get me  
I hear them running through the yard  
Morning chores can be so hard.  
They want their grain  
They want their hay  
They want me to milk them so they can go play.  
Up on the stand they eat their treats  
Stomping to get the flies off their feet.  
Squirting in the bucket, the milk made a hiss  
All the barn cats were waiting for this.  
They come out of everywhere like a flood  
under the door they crawl through the mud.  
The bucket's full  
The cats are too  
There's just one thing that's left to do.  
Feed the pigs a gallon or two  
Go inside and drink some tea  
and at 6 a.m. go back to sleep!



# *Characteristics of Colors*

*Sadie Kovtynovich*

Some may say grey is a dim color,  
Many things are the color grey  
But they are not dim.

Many animals are grey,  
Dolphins leaping from the lively blue water  
Sharks stalking prey in the dark sea  
Rabbits hopping through beautiful fields  
Mice scurry through petite corridors.

The beautiful outdoors  
Many admirable shades of grey  
Sky-scraping mountains tower above all  
Rocks tile the ground as an alluring view  
Wolves howl to the grey tinted moon.

Old pictures a memory from long ago  
Grey shades representing accomplishments  
Cowboys riding horses, scientific discoveries  
All bringing us together today.





# *Pueblo, Tinseltown*

## *Brooklyn Phillips*

The movies  
Excitement awaits you  
Sci-fi, comedy, horror or romance  
It doesn't matter  
You know you'll enjoy the show

Dim lights  
People scurrying around like mice in the shadows  
All trying to find a seat  
The gigantic movie screen flashes previews  
When will they ever end?

Black and white checker tiles above  
Your hand touches the cool leather seat  
You quickly reach for your candy

The smell of popcorn  
Pop, pop, pop  
The sound of wrappers crackling open  
Straws slurping  
Faint and quiet whispers

The lights flicker out  
Time to relax and enjoy the show.



# *Down Below*

## *Porter Sonntag*

They threw the anchor in the deep,  
And in the cabin went to sleep,

But at night when the air got cold,  
The captain stayed out, brave and bold,

Above the shadows of the night,  
The clouds above began to fight,

Then the clouds began to shove,  
A crack of lightning from above,

The sky lit up with a bright white light  
And the clouds unleashed their full-on might,

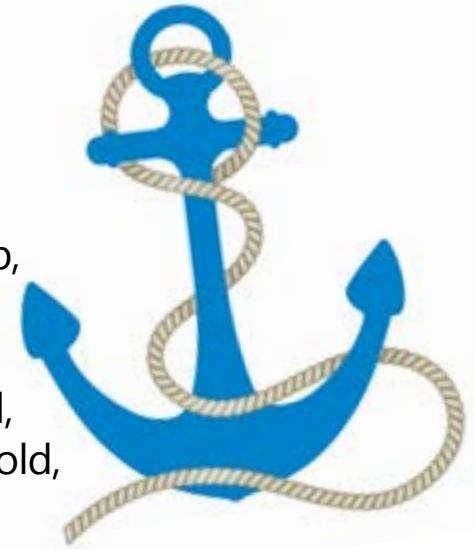
The rain then came crashing down,  
The captain's smile changing to frown,

He ran down to go and check,  
"Everybody up, all hands on deck!"

The crew was running all 'round,  
Making sure the ropes were bound,

The crew were all filled with fear,  
For they all knew the end was near,

Now they lie down below,  
Where no one else will dare to go.



# Questions

Samantha Strasia

Look in the dark sky  
I look in the dark sky every night  
I look for a sign that you are okay  
and seek  
out answers on where and why  
you went, to have freedom  
Some win the battle and others are not as lucky  
Up where your blood and bone are crisp and clean  
Wondering if you're with  
other loved ones or watching us  
make our own moves.



# Hunting

Rudy Valenzuela



The finesse of birds,  
With glee of squirrels, dancing.  
Water, like clean glass.  
I need not go anywhere.  
Its beauty brings joy to me.





# *Edible Sound*

*Elizabeth Wakefield*

Musical notes  
Jump off the page  
Like popcorn kernels.  
Exploding into tasty...  
                    hot...  
                    salty...  
                    buttery...  
                    sound nuggets  
For your ears to eat!



# *Folklorico?*

*Alissa Lopez*

Folklorico, to most it's those big pretty dresses that flow when the girls dance.  
To others? Folklorico is hard work and commitment.  
Folklorico, the hours spent perfecting steps.  
Folklorico, the way we vibe with the music.  
Folklorico, the dance that comes from different regions of Mexico.  
Folklorico, the genre of dance my dance team has won nine trophies in.  
Folklorico, the place where I met tons of people who've become family.  
Folklorico, it's much more than the "big flowing dresses."





# Ode to the Rain

Emily Lucero

The rain, the rain  
How gently it falls  
Cool and refreshing  
As it rolls down the walls

The pitter patter as it hits the roof  
Is calming and serene  
The way it feels  
And the way it intensifies all of the green  
Makes everything new, bold and refreshing

And how the rain looks itself  
Reflecting the light in each little droplet  
Showing the bright, beautiful shine of the sun  
As it steadily falls

The rain, the rain  
How peaceful it is  
Cascading like a blanket  
With tranquil peace.

# Growing Up

Brianna Montoya

Yesterday I was a child  
With no care in the world  
Innocent and blissful  
Playing in the dirt  
And making cupcakes.

Today I am a teenager  
I wear makeup to hide my  
imperfections  
I try to fit in with my peers  
I've drifted away from my family  
As I'm locked away in my room  
Today I am a teenager.

Tomorrow I'll be an adult  
Moving away from home  
Wishing I didn't take my  
childhood for granted  
Starting a new chapter in my life  
Tomorrow I'll be an adult.

Soon I'll be an old lady  
Looking back on my life thinking  
about what  
I've accomplished  
I'll see my grandkids playing in  
my yard  
And fighting over toys  
I'll notice the little things in life  
I won't take people for granted  
I'll be blissful with all my  
blessings  
Soon I'll be an old lady.



# *My Cat Tesla*

## *José Moreno*

Her eyes as yellow as a lemon  
Her fur is fine silk and satins

She is a sleeping angel in the night  
She is an olympic athlete  
Her claws are piercing razor blades  
When she hunts she is a tiger

When she stalks her prey her eyes dilate as dark as night skies  
When she pounces she jumps 10 feet in the air  
Her spots on her coat are craters on the moon  
She walks quietly as a mouse

Her ears are a radar detecting the slightest sound  
Her tail swings aggressively becoming a whip  
Her profile of her stance makes her a Bastet  
When she blinks it's like a butterfly folding its wings



# *Grandmother's Gift*

## *Bennie Barbara Dahlquist*

As they sat on her big front porch, her grandchildren said to her:  
"Tell us about our birthdays."  
"Oh, dear ones, God smiled on your parents when He and You decided when you should come to earth.  
He knew the people, who would need you,  
And you chose to go and grow for the life you could lead."  
"Why do we get presents?"  
"We give presents to you to celebrate the day of your birth...  
To honor God for giving you life and,  
To honor the gift of hope your being born can bring to the world."  
And, what presents would you give to us grandma?"  
"The most important gift I would give to you is this: Do Not Be Tossed Away.  
Your thoughts have value, even when you decide to keep them to yourself.  
Your work has value, even when it doesn't completely please others.  
Your abilities have value, even if God is the only one who appreciates them.  
Your hopes and dreams have value, and are always, always possible,  
Even if you are not always sure what those dreams should be:  
You are always the right size, the right ability, just the right person to be you."





# *Nature Appreciation*

## *Geraldine Easton Smith*

I'm happy now with simple things,  
As when I was a child.  
A breeze-flown curtain, a bird that sings,  
A day that's sunny and mild.  
Brilliant color awash in flowers,  
And birds and butterflies.  
The introspection of quiet hours  
Before the sun signals "Arise."  
The rainbow covenant in the sky  
That follows a cleansing rain.  
The clouds break up and drift on by,  
And the sun comes out again.



# *Kite Festival*

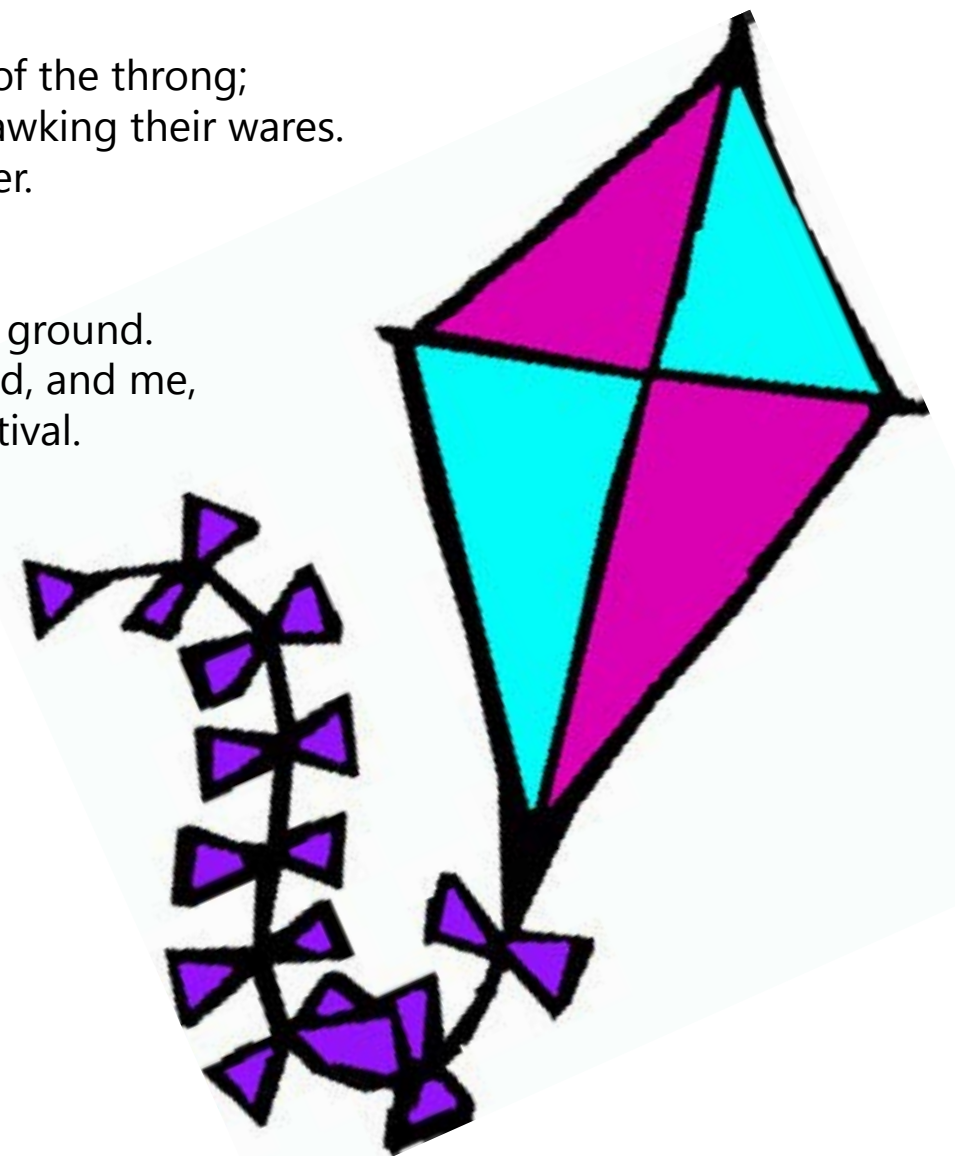
## *Edith Edson*

An explosion of kites,  
Sky rocket burst of color and form;  
A helter-skelter of confusion,  
Milling crowd confining me.

I am buoyed up  
By the modest box bravely soaring  
In the midst of flying fish, peacocks,  
Huge, grotesque, glaring dragons.

I am sucked down  
By ever deafening clamor of the throng;  
Vendors, pressing close, hawking their wares.  
Strings battling one another.

Kaleidoscope in the sky,  
A swirl of emotions on the ground.  
Kite masters, young and old, and me,  
Spectator at the Tokyo Festival.





# *Tribute to Ashley*

*Cindy Jones*

No one knew-  
The silent suffering you endured,  
Loveless mother and sisterly servitude.  
No one knew-  
The beautiful soul within  
Loving granddaughter, wife and friend.  
No one knew-  
The gentle butterfly, angel on earth.  
Blessed loyalty and infinity of worth.  
No one knew-  
Of the soft goodbye,  
Whispered sigh.  
No one knew-  
An angel could die.



# *I Am*

*Mary Yarn*

I am scared and reassured.  
I wonder what you think about me.  
I hear your smile.  
I see your heart.  
I want you to be carefree.  
I am scared and reassured.  
I pretend not to worry.  
I feel your wonder.  
I touch your soul.  
I cry when you hurt.  
I am scared and reassured.  
I understand you are learning.  
I say you will go far.  
I dream the best for you.  
I try not to be strict.  
I hope you always stay kind.  
I am scared. I am reassured. I am a mother.

