

Pueblo City-County Library District

*19th Annual
Poetry Contest*



Pueblo City-County Library District 2016 Poetry Contest

Pueblo City-County Library District, in cooperation with the Friends of the Library, is pleased to announce the winners of the 19th 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 the Friends of the Library. The judges were Friends of the Library board members Monica Ayala and Sherry Wingo, and PCCLD staff members Gloria Madrill, Sara Schwartz, Michelle Vigil and Courtney Woodka. There were a total of 1,179 entries.

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



Pueblo City-County Library District 19th Annual Poetry Contest Winners

2nd Grade

Liam Filpi	South Park Elementary School – Mrs. VanderPutten
Brody Kidd	Sunset Park Elementary School – Mrs. Kliesen
Abigail Medved	Swallows Charter Academy – Mrs. Geesaman
Sorrel Unwin	Homeschool – Ms. Unwin

3rd Grade

Nadia Bustos	Vineland Elementary School – Mrs. Vallejos
Siera Candelaria	Sunset Park Elementary School – Miss Turner
Charlee Jaquez	Vineland Elementary School – Mrs. Vallejos
Fiona Timney	Swallows Charter Academy – Mrs. Medved

4th Grade

Zadie Guo	Corwin International Magnet School – Ms. Quinn
Lily Miller	Highland Park Elementary School – Ms. Ribal
Landon Rivera	Highland Park Elementary School – Ms. Ribal
Eli Schwartz	Corwin International Magnet School – Ms. Quinn

5th Grade

Kaden Armstrong	Heroes K-8 Academy – Mrs. Martinez
Amelia May Burbidge	Haaff Elementary School – Mrs. Elson
Ethan Hall	Sunset Park Elementary School – Mrs. Pool
Natalia Rodriguez	Morton Elementary School – Mr. Cain
Diego Romero	Morton Elementary School – Mr. Cain

Pueblo City-County Library District 19th Annual Poetry Contest Winners

Middle School

Morgan Bailey

Vineland Middle School – Ms. Chavez

Keziah Estabrook

Connect Charter School – Mrs. Wood

Brooke Kinnaman

Morton Elementary School – Mr. Seller

MaKayla Martellaro

Vineland Middle School – Ms. Frank

Lael Vigil

Risley International Academy – Ms. Lanning

High School

Ayrionna Benavidez

Centennial High School – Mrs. Anaya

Melina Minnich

East High School – Mr. Romero

Hannah Shanley-Montiel

Central High School – Mrs. Canchola

Adult

Kerry Bennett

Sandra LeFebre

Kimberly McLaughlin

Winning Entries



Music

Liam Filipi

Here we stand with whispers of music in our ears.
As we wander through this troubled world.
In search of all things beautiful.



If I Were a Penguin

Brody Kidd

If I were a penguin, I would waddle to the water and dive right in.
Splish! Splash! I can swim fast in the deep blue water.
Wow, look at me!
Catch some fish, eat some krill and stay away from lion seals.
Wow, look at me!
Gliding through the arctic sea, I am happy as can be.



Brothers

Abigail Medved

Brothers are sometimes bad.
Brothers are sometimes good.
But when they're bad,
They make me mad.
Cause they don't do what they should.



Clouds

Sorrel Unwin



Clouds,
Fluffy, White,
Floating, Shape shifting, Raining,
Dark, Stormy, Brown, Dirty,
Splattering, Staining, Squishing
Icky, Wet,
Mud

Basketball

Nadia Bustos

Bouncing basketballs, athletes play with
and shoot whenever they can.

But make sure not to kick the ball.

Especially during the game or the ref will call a foul.

But remember you have to pass the ball
and dribble if you are moving with it.

LeBron James has been considered one of the best players in the League
and has been compared to Michael Jordan.



Spring Things

Siera Candalaria

Flowers have powers that
gloom and glow
When the wind blows
We all know
Spring is here
When it is here we will cheer
More winter no more cold
Just pretty old spring
That's the thing
We all know the sun shines bright
Full of light
So much fun
We all want some.



Dance

Charlee Jaquez

Difficult to get every step right.
Actually very challenging, even if it doesn't look hard.
So never give up and be careful to not trip over your dress or feet.
It is exciting when you do a performance.



Summer Break

Fiona Timney

Summer break is around the corner.
All the kids are waiting for it
to play and run all day.
The sun on my back.
And eating my favorite snack.
Lollypops and Cheetopuffs.
Summer break is around the corner.
Hurray! Hurray!

Summer break is here today!
All the things I would like to do.
Like ride my bike
And stay awake all night.

All the children are sad.
Summer break is over lad.
Boohoo! Boohoo!
I miss summer break.
Do you?



Colleges

Zadie Guo

Colleges, colleges, a lot of fun.
Learning, working, and so much more.
Growing up and opening the door.
Colleges, colleges, I'm coming for you.



Patriotism Is...

Lily Miller

Americans wonder when their freedom will end.
Americans hear their peers recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Americans see the veterans return home.

Americans want their freedom forever

Americans think they are free. Are they?

Veterans promise to protect this country.

Veterans feel inside a yearning to keep our land free.

Veterans touch a heart in everyone.

Veterans worry that they will die in war.

Veterans hope, to keep a free country.

I understand people have died to save us.

I say I will contribute to freedom.

I dream I will stay free forever.

I try to be a patriot.

I will thank all vets!



Valentine's Day

Landon Rivera

Dark drippy chocolate
All the great candy
All the people laughing.
Fluffy cupcakes
My heart beating.
Everyone is excited about this day.
Everyone is loving each other.



Mystery Poem

Eli Schwartz

It creates memories.
It is entertaining.
It changes your emotions.
It relaxes you.
It improves your memory.
It makes you creative.
It connects people.
What is it?

It is exciting.
It is fast and it is slow.
It is loud and it is quiet.
It is violent and it is calming.
It is high and low pitched and every pitch in
between.
It is expression.
What is it?

It is brass and strings.
It is woodwinds and percussion.
It is melody and harmony.
It is timely and timeless.
It makes you feel like dancing.
It makes you feel like singing.
It is a gift from the composer to you.
It is music.



The Life of 2016

Kaden Armstrong

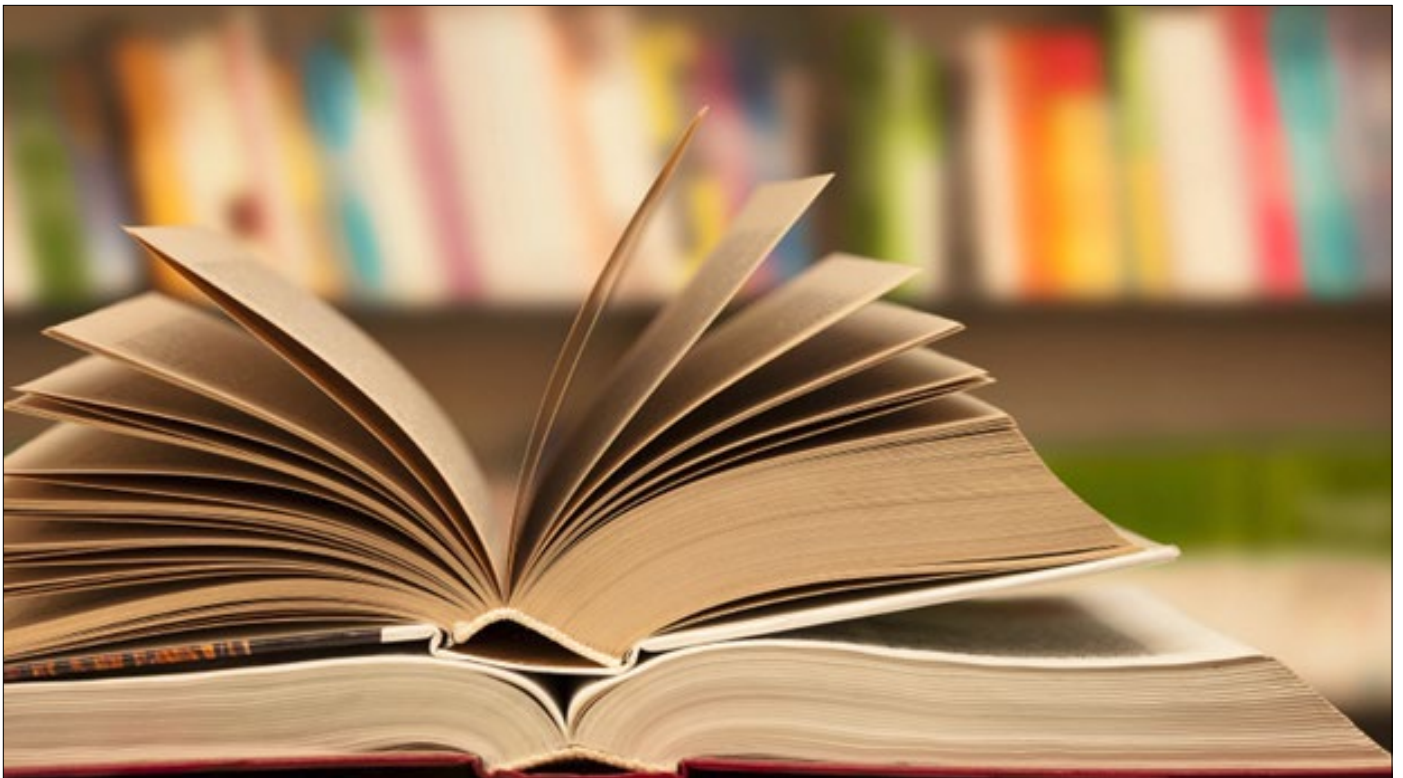
Eastside, Westside, Northside, Southside
They are all sides of town, but why can't there be peace?
Peace is nature. Nature is violence.
Gangs, guns, and drugs are our kids' nursery rhymes today.



Books

Amelia May Burbidge

When I see books, I feel as comfortable as the moon on a crisp night.
The sight of the paper that used to be a tree, so beautiful to me.
Some are seniors, some are newborns.
All so mighty and strong.
Sound of the words being spoken, makes me feel at home.
Words can be challenging or easy as pie.
Hearing them all fills me with joy.
With the soft pages touching my fingertips, my mind begins to slip.
Some can be sweet and some can be sour, but all are tasty to me.
The fresh or dusty smelling paper comforts me.
Books and books will come to me.



World Peace

Ethan Hall

If all the war and violence would cease,
there would finally be world peace.

If all the negativity could leave,
our planet would weave itself to world peace.

If kindness can finally greet us,
then world peace would meet us.

If robbery could go away,
then world peace would come our way.

If all these characteristics of our planet could freeze,
then life would simply be a breeze.



Nature

Natalia Rodríguez



Nature is beautiful, just like you and me.
It is fun to just explore because you learn new things,
instead of being in front of a screen all day long.
Because screens don't teach anything.



Sky Zone

Diego Romero



Jumping up and down, you hear a lot of sound.
Laughter everywhere, people in the air.
Flying in the sky, going so high.
Playing dodgeball, trying not to fall.
Feeling dizzy, got a soda that's fizzy.
Doing lots of flips, but won't do it on clip.

Environment

Morgan Bailey

We really should stop
Throwing trash away in the trash bins
Everything would be better if we start
Burning things and doing more deforestation
Why did we even start
Making laws that punish us for littering
I completely agree with
People trying to poach endangered animals
Anyone, including me, would want to prevent
People who don't like the world
Don't waste your time on
The people who want to keep trees
I don't understand how people wouldn't want
To live on Mars and leave the Earth
Seriously, I can't imagine it

Now, let's reverse it (read backwards).



The Seasons

Keziah Estabrook

The heart of winter, frozen cold.
Bearing all of nature's stories, left to be untold.

The heart of spring, a tiny bit warm.
Bearing all of nature's rain, to gather up a storm.

The heart of summer, burning hot.
Bearing all of nature's heat, in a large invisible pot.

The heart of autumn, beautiful at rest.
Bearing all of nature's leaves to be thrown like all the rest.



Captive

Brooke Kinnaman

Once I dive into these pages,
I may not come out for ages.

Books have power over me,
inside a book I am not free.

I am a prisoner in a land,
of print and paper in my hand.

But do not worry, do not fear,
I am happy in this land here.



Lost in the Pages

MaKayla Martellaro

Lost in the pages.
Embarking in the adventure.
Transporting to a distant land.
Slaying the monster or solving the mystery.
No limits.
So you will find me there, lost in the pages.



Life Poem

Laël Vigil



I am from a small town, where there's history all around.
Where the Home of the Heroes made their mark on Pueblo.

I am a 2001 child and oldest of only one sibling.
She may be annoying but we both love to sing.

I am a teen who has lived most of her years without her dad.
When I think about it now, it makes me feel sad.

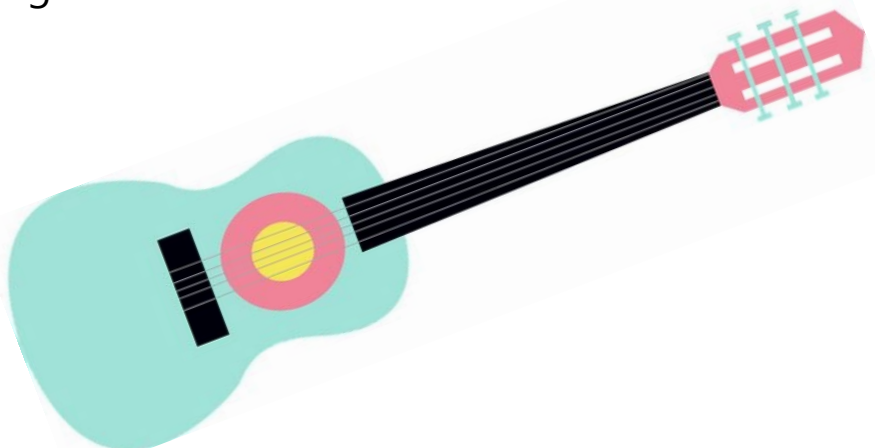
I am a reader, lover of music, video gamer, and animal lover.
I am a dreamer that dreams to become a singer and instrument player.

I am someone who would eat an entire bag of chips in one day.
I am with a family that moves a lot from neighborhood to neighborhood.
I am an eastside by heart and that's good.

I am always in my room morning, evening, and afternoon.
I am someone who likes to play softball and join in other activities.
I am a big Walking Dead fan and I'm proud of it.

I am someone who has a mom that is like my best friend.
We sometimes spend time together on the weekends.

I am a Forty-Niners fan even though they sometimes lose.
But red and gold is still the team I choose.



Human Nature

Ayrionna Benavidez

Even the most innocent of beauty will be lost.
It is not a choice, but rather an impulse that puts such a fragile thing at risk.
One wrong move will end it all, and it's the cause of a human touch.

Closed mind and a bitter tongue will make the flowers die one by one.
Clenched fists and vicious tidal waves flood the coast like my emotional
rage.

The pure elegance of the world will be burned
by the crudeness of a human brain.

Sad eyes and heartaches, my thoughts pour down like burning rain.
Shattered soul and desperation, wildfires will incinerate the nation.

What was beauty in a jar is smashed by the brokenness of a human heart.



The Never Ending Battle

Melina Minnich

Impossible...

Dark clouds infused with lightning strikes throughout the mind.

Progressing to cover all inside.


I am trapped...appearing confined.

In the ring with my own freedom.

Fighting desperately to make it out.

To proceed playing in the repellent game.

Righteous souls portray obsession, where discourteous rumors...trigger depression.



In my direction, impossibility stands firmly.

Staring at him, he critiques every move.

Silently, failure approaches.

Leaving his empty steps unheard.

Petrified I stand, while it deposits obstacles.

It empowers...take control violently.

Tagging along I fight through the tormenting journey.

Overcoming mistakes, gathering integrity where it sprouts.

Ambition bursts inwardly, like a ray of sun on the horizon.

Satisfaction appears, surrounding all, hearing it rattle.

Nobody ever knew that I could make it out...of this never ending battle.



What Do You See?

Hannah Shanley-Montiel

When you look at me, what do you see?

Do you see a person trying to figure out who they're going to be?

Do you see a nobody who is always down?

Do you see a girl who constantly holds a frown?

Do you see the hurt in my boring brown eyes?

Do you see a girl in disguise?

Do you see anything behind the fake smile?

Do you see someone who is worth your while?

When I look at me, I see a person who is exactly who she wants to be.

I see a root growing into a tree.

I see an orchid in a field of daisies.

I see a girl who is different, in a world full of crazies.

I see lightning in the middle of a rainstorm.

I see someone who is going to transform.

When you look at me, what do you see?



Victorian Lady

Kerry Bennett

Comfort
In this old house
The squeak of a floorboard;
The antique moldings;
The kitchen that is never quite right;
The old claw foot tub where I soak;
The walls that shelter,
Hold stories,
And whisper in the night.

My beloved Victorian Lady
Keeps me close
In small rooms
Where I dream of a past
I never lived.

Leaving her,
I leave the comfort
Of memories held in the old boards
And faded linoleum.
The paint is peeling
Outside the front door,
But underneath is the color of joy
A faded hue of bygone days.

I whisper a soft farewell
And latch the old pine door,
On my way
Another day to live.

And always,
There is a deep relief

Coming home again
To a place I can only pretend to know.

In subtle ways
She holds the past,
In the gentle yearnings of memory,
This old house
Speaks in groans and sighs,
Welcoming me back,
Embracing me in her history,
And allowing me
To lose myself
In the subdued story
Of her.



Garden Woes

Sandra LeFebvre

Look at this, this tiny bug,
and over there I see a slug.

On my right I see more pests,
I think I might go and take a rest.

Aphids and beetles are all around,
and over there a gopher mound.

Grasshoppers and tomato worms,
things that hop, things that squirm.

Look that green bean has a hole,
a squash bug's climbing up that pole.

I thought I was growing some plants,
now it looks like I'm growing ants.

All that time and money spent,
I think next year I'll plant cement.



Poetry Dreams

Kimberly McLaughlin

If I were a poet
I'd bubble wrap you
in a cocoon of soft words
and
rhyming reasons
to love me
return to sender
I'd add layer upon
layer of
translucent
pop, pop, popping
persuasive
whispers
I'd tie you
up with
twines of twisted sonnets
and mail you to me
opening your
incandescence
like everyday
was a
gift

(Inspired by Nikki Giovanni's Kidnap Poem)

