

# Jackson District Library Poetry Contest 2010

## Entry Packet



## YOUNG POETS 2010 CONTEST GUIDELINES

### Contest Rules

1. Any student enrolled in grades 1-12 in a Jackson County school, any home-schooled student, and any GED student in Jackson County may enter the contest.
2. Poems may be written on any subject except their name, but must be only one page in length. **No art work should accompany the poem, nor should the poem be pasted on colored paper.**
3. Poems must be **typed or written neatly**. (Preferably on 8 ½ x 11 paper, except for primary students.)
4. The student's **NAME, GRADE, and SCHOOL must** appear in the **upper right-hand corner** of the poem.
5. Each poem must have a student registration form stapled to the **upper left-hand corner** of the poem.
6. Each student may submit only one poem.
7. Poems may be submitted through a **school, a library, or online at [www.myjdl.com](http://www.myjdl.com)**.
8. Each school should choose **one coordinator** who will be the contact person for the contest and responsible to see that the rules are followed and the poems turned in on time.
9. **All poems become the property of the Jackson District Library and will not be returned. Please keep a copy of the students' poems. The Jackson District Library retains the first rights for publication of prize-winning poems.**
10. All poems must be **postmarked by January 29, 2010** and received with one week of that date.

**FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ANY OF THE RULES WILL RESULT IN A STUDENT'S DISQUALIFICATION.**

### Prizes

1. **Three winners** (First, Second and Third Places) will be chosen for each grade level.
2. **At least one honorable mention winner** will also be chosen for each grade level.
3. **All winners** will receive a certificate, a ribbon, and a copy of the **Young Poets 2010** booklet and be asked to read their poems aloud at a **Young Poets Awards program to be held on April 27, 2010, 6:00 p.m. at the Jackson High School Auditorium, 544 Wildwood Avenue, Jackson**. First, Second and Third Place winners will also receive a prize.

### Judging

1. Members of our Poetry Panel will judge the poems.
2. Poems will be judged by grade level.
3. Poems will be scored on the basis of creativity, vocabulary, and creative expression.
4. Decisions of the judges are final.
5. The winners of the contest will be announced in March 2010. The Young Poets Awards program for the winners will be held on April 27, 2010, 6:00 p.m. at the Jackson High School Auditorium, 544 Wildwood Avenue, Jackson.

**MAIL POEMS TO:**

**YOUNG POETS 2010  
Jackson District Library  
Attn: Jean Dailey  
244 W. Michigan Ave.  
Jackson, MI 49201**

# PLAGIARISM ALERT

Plagiarism is a growing problem. If we were to choose a poem as a winning entry and then find out it had been plagiarized, it would be an embarrassment to all concerned. The judges will be reading hundreds of poems and cannot be expected to recognize any poems that may have been copied, so we are asking for your help.

Plagiarism is the act of stealing or copying the ideas or words of others to use as one's own without giving credit to the original source. **PLEASE** explain to your students what plagiarism is and how serious an offense it is. We have to guess that some students do not really understand what plagiarism is and that copying someone else's work is a serious offense. What they submit should be their own, original creation.

We know that you have a lot of responsibilities and duties, but we would appreciate your assistance in eliminating this problem. For our part, if we have questions about the authenticity of any submission, we will check it against the poetry sources and our literature database for possible plagiarism.

Thank you for your support in this important matter.

## TYPES OF POETRY

**Acrostic** - a poem where the first letter of each line spells a word that can be read vertically.

**Alphabet** - Each line begins with the letters of the alphabet in order; a, b, c, d.

**Ballad** - a ballad is a story song that often has a refrain or chorus and set to music.

**Cinquain** - a type of poetry in which the first line has one word, the second has two words describing the first line, the third line shows action with three words, the fourth line has four words that convey feeling, and the fifth line refers to line one.

**Color** - A poem about your favorite color. Express your feelings about a single color with analogies or similes or list nouns which are (or remind you of) that color. Another easy form is to use the 5 senses-looks like, sounds like, smells like, tastes like, feels like.

**Diamante** - The Diamante is a form similar to the Cinquain. The text forms the shape of a diamond.

**Epitaph** - See the anti-smoking poems at Poetry Teachers

<http://www.poetryteachers.com/poetclass/lessons/smokepoem.html>

**Free Verse** - poetry that is written material freed from paragraph form and has rhythm, but no rhyme

**Haiku** - the haiku is a three lined Japanese poem about nature. This particular type of poetry has a limit on the amount of syllables you can have for each line. The first line always has five syllables. The second line has seven syllables. The third line has the same amount as the first line.

**I Wish** - Each line of the poem begins with the words "I wish" and then you fill in your ideas.

**Limerick** - a limerick is humorous nonsense verse consisting of a triplet and couplet, making it a five line poem. Lines one, two, and five are the triplet and rhyme. The third and fourth lines form a rhyming couplet.

**Monster Poem** - Describe an imaginary monster. Try to have a theme (food, sports, animals, school subjects etc.)

**Rhyming** – Couplets, triplets, and quatrains are made up of two, three, and four lines. These poems are often silly and have a rhythm with the last words in each line rhyming.

**Young Poets Contest, 2010**  
**STUDENT RULES AND REGISTRATION FORM**

1. You may submit only **one poem**, which is **no longer than one page**.
2. Write your own, *original* poem. **DO NOT COPY ANY PART OF SOMEONE ELSE'S WORK. This is plagiarism and you will be disqualified.**
3. **Please do not use your name in your poem as this identifies you to the judges.**
4. Type or print your poem neatly on 8 ½" x 11" paper. **NO ARTWORK, PLEASE.**
5. Put your name, grade, and school name in the **upper right hand corner** of your poem.
6. Fill out the registration form at the bottom of this page. **Cut it on the dotted line and staple it to the upper left-hand corner of your poem.**
7. **Submit your poem to your teacher (or librarian) to be postmarked by January 29, 2010. Poems may also be submitted at [www.myjdl.com](http://www.myjdl.com).**
8. Prizes will be awarded to each grade level, 1 – 12 and GED.
9. Poems become the property of the Jackson District Library and ***WILL NOT BE RETURNED.*** **Please keep a copy of your poem.** The Jackson District Library retains the first rights for publication of prize-winning poems.
10. Winners will be announced in March 2010.
11. **Each first, second, third place and honorable mention winner will receive a certificate, a ribbon, and a copy of the Young Poets 2010 booklet at the Young Poets Awards program to be held on April 27, 2010, 6:00 p.m. at the Jackson High School Auditorium, 544 Wildwood Avenue, Jackson. Prizes will also be awarded to those students submitting first, second, and third place winning entries. Winners will be asked to read their poems aloud at the program.**



**YOUNG POETS 2010: REGISTRATION FORM**

Please PRINT or TYPE, except for your signature.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC LIBRARY \_\_\_\_\_

COORDINATOR \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

POEM TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## CRITERIA CHART FOR JUDGING POETRY

The Poetry Panel has provided us with this chart as an example of the guidelines some judges will use when judging poetry in a contest. Poetry contestants may find it helpful to use these when writing their poetry.

No one expects a judge to follow this chart precisely and base ALL of his or her judgment on the assignment of points for each poem, but the chart is helpful for judges to keep various criteria in mind, as well as their relative importance when selecting winning poems. The criteria are especially helpful when judging contests where a number of poems seem excellent and choosing winners is difficult.

<b>POINTS</b>	<b>CRITERIA</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Aptness of title</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Impact (Powerful effect)—Universality (Unrestricted fitness or adaptability.)</b> <b>Poems with impact will usually be the finalists from which winners are chosen.</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Imagery (Mental image as created by imagination or memory. Originality and vivid descriptions through the use of figures of speech.)</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Suitability (Appropriate to a particular contest, category, occasion, condition, etc.) Enables reader to identify with theme.)</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Meaning - can be paraphrased. Reader can say or sense the same thing in other words.</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Basic Theme (the message of the poem)</b> <b>Continuity (uninterrupted development of the theme).</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Technical Detail (Craftsmanship) Includes aptness to phrase, assonance, alliteration, freshness of rhyme, balance of lines against one another, rhythmic quality, absence of redundancy, economy of words.</b>