



## POETRY CONTEST 2017/18

P.O. Box 44169 – RPO Gorge · Victoria, British Columbia, V9A 7K1

Ph: 250-519-0446 Fx: 250-519-0029

Our aim is to encourage children to read, write and enjoy English.

WE SUPPORT CANADIAN SCHOOLS

September 2017

Dear Head of English,

Now in its twenty-fourth year, the Poetry Institute's Young Writers Poetry contest for young writers is getting started. Cash/book prizes will be awarded to schools and young writers in this contest, and certificates for Awards of Excellence. We hope you find the details of interest.

Teachers are invited to send in poetry written by students. There are two age groups: 5-12 years and 13-18 years. The best work will be published in a high-quality anthology. Contact us if you would like to receive a free copy of a previous anthology (as long as stocks last). Please feel free to have students send in work. All entries will be acknowledged.

Each entry can be up to 24 lines or less (spaces between stanzas or titles are not included). A free book may be requested by schools that submit five or more entries. This must be requested two months prior to the publication release in June 2018. Please contact [orders@youngwritersofcanada.ca](mailto:orders@youngwritersofcanada.ca) to request your copy.

Every young writer whose work is accepted will receive a certificate of achievement. Writers whose work is not accepted will receive a bookmark gift for participating. Entries are not returned, so please make sure to keep a copy. Judging and selecting work for publication will be the responsibility of the Young Writers editorial team.

Please ensure there is a "student entry form" attached to each student's entry, and a "school entry form" for each package of entries. These are enclosed. One entry per poet. **DEADLINE** for entries, **NOVEMBER 15, 2017 (postmarked)**. Please contact us if your entries will be later than the deadline.

### Student Prizes

There are also \$60 first prizes for the writers of the best work for each region and age group (5-9; 10-12; 13-15; 16-18); three \$25 prizes for runners-up for each region and age group (5-9; 10-12; 13-15; 16-18); and over 75 Award of Excellence certificates.

### School prizes

A first prize of \$250 to the school sending in the best overall group of entries (for each age group 5-12; 13-18); three second prizes of \$50 and three third prizes of \$25 (for each age group 5-12; 13-18); and two bonus prizes\*: (25) copies of anthology for their classroom (1 age group only) with the most accepted entries; (10) copies of anthology for their classroom (1 age group only) with the second most accepted entries. All prizes will be awarded after the publication of the books.

\*Awarded as bonus prizes to the school that sends in the most acceptable entries is 25 copies of the published anthology in which their students' work appears (one title only); school with the second most accepted entries will receive 10 copies of the anthology in which their students' work appears (one title only).

If you would like further information please contact us at [info@youngwritersofcanada.ca](mailto:info@youngwritersofcanada.ca). Visit our website for testimonials from teachers, parents and writers [www.youngwritersofcanada.ca](http://www.youngwritersofcanada.ca) We look forward to receiving your students' entries!