



Poetry Contest 2019-2020

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Now under the new ownership and management of **Institute of Canadian Poetry Inc.**

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

WE SUPPORT CANADIAN SCHOOLS!

September 2019

Dear Head of English,

Now in its twenty-sixth year, the Poetry Institute's **Young Writers Poetry Contest 2019-2020** for youth is getting started. Cash/book prizes will be awarded to schools and young writers in this contest, as well as certificates for Awards of Excellence. There are no entry fees. We hope that 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 (while stocks last). Please feel free to have students send in their work, or have the class/school submit their entries. All entries will be acknowledged.

Each entry can be a maximum of twenty-four lines (spaces between stanzas or titles are not included in the line count). A free book may be requested by schools that submit entries. This must be requested two months prior to the publication release in June 2020. To request your copy, please contact us at info@youngwritersofcanada.ca.

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 participation. Entries are not returned, so please make sure to keep a copy. Judging and selection are the responsibilities 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 entry forms are enclosed. Only one entry per poet will be accepted. Deadline for entries is **November 15, 2019** (postmarked). Extensions can be made, so please contact us if your entries will be later than the deadline. Entries may also be faxed or emailed to us as long as the entry form information is included.

Student Prizes

There is a \$60 1st prize for the writers with the best work for each region and age group (5-9, 13-15, 16-18); three \$25 prizes for runners-up for each region and age group; and over 75 Award of Excellence certificates.

School Prizes

There is a 1st prize of \$250 to the school sending in the best overall group of entries for each age group (5-12 and 13-18); three 2nd prizes of \$50 for each age group; three 3rd prizes of \$25 for each age group; and two bonus prizes.

Bonus Prizes

25 copies of the published anthology to the school that sends in the most accepted entries; 10 copies of the anthology to the school that sends in the second-most accepted entries.

If you would like further information, please contact us at info@youngwritersofcanada.ca. For testimonials from teachers, parents and writers, please visit our website: www.youngwritersofcanada.ca.

We look forward to receiving your students' entries!

Warm regards,

Jennifer Lejeune
Managing Editor