

Live! From The Library
Student Poetry Contest for Youth Ages 5-19
Sponsored by the Walnut Creek Library Foundation

Contest Entry Form

Note: Please print carefully and use a pen so we can read your information.

DATE: _____ AGE: _____ GRADE: _____

FIRST NAME: _____ LAST NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

SCHOOL: _____

POEM TITLE: _____

SIGNATURES(S):

I declare and avow that the poem I am submitting to the **Live! From The Library Student Poetry Contest** is my own original work. Winning poems may be published on the Foundation website.

POET: _____

By signing this form, I, as the parent or legal guardian, give permission to the above-named minor to enter the **Live! From The Library Student Poetry Contest** and agree to the official rules.

Parent or Guardian Signature : _____

(If under 18)

ALL ENTRIES MUST INCLUDE THIS COMPLETED AND SIGNED FORM

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 11, 2010

MAIL ENTRIES TO:
WALNUT CREEK LIBRARY FOUNDATION
POETRY CONTEST
P.O. BOX 4979
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596

Additional entry forms can be downloaded at www.wclibrary.org
Questions? Visit our website, wclibrary.org or call 935-5395

The Walnut Creek Library Foundation
and Children's Hospital present



Student Poetry Contest

"Becoming..."
Deadline March 11, 2010

Hail

Hail.

If you look closely,
and the sun is shining just right,
You can see a rainbow inside each drop.

Hail.

When it falls on a leaf,
the leaf dances like a butterfly's wings.

Hail.

When it lands in a puddle,
the water springs back up like a flower in bloom.

Hail.

If you listen closely,
it sounds like 500 tap dancers on the roof,
dancing their hearts away!

Hail.

When you catch it in your mouth,
it feels like a hard mint candy that melts away on your
tongue.

Tyler Burns
First place winner 2009
2nd Grade, Walnut Heights Elementary



CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
& RESEARCH CENTER OAKLAND



Becoming...

For our second annual celebration of poetry, the Walnut Creek Library Foundation and Lindsay Wildlife Museum are sponsoring a poetry contest for students at Walnut Creek schools. We invite students to reflect on the theme, “**Becoming . . .**” We and the world around us are always in the process of becoming.

A stone becomes sand

A seed becomes a wildflower

A caterpillar becomes a butterfly

Acquaintance becomes love

A student becomes a teacher

The first eighteen years of our lives are a magical time. Our bodies change and grow, our minds develop; we discover new things every day. Everything in the world around us changes as well. We hope students will use their limitless imaginations to think about the theme and then engage in an act of becoming as their thoughts become words and their words become a poem.

The contest is free, and all participants will receive a Poetry Contest Certificate and a student pass to the Lindsay Wildlife Museum. Finalists will be judged by students in the St. Mary’s College MFA program. Category winners will have the opportunity to read their poem at the Poetry Live! evening event on **Thursday, March 25** with poets Cheryl Dumesnil, G. E. Patterson, and Deema Shehabi.



On **Sunday, March 28**, there will be a celebration and award ceremony at the Lindsay Wildlife Museum. We hope you will find the voice within you and join us to celebrate poetry and our world!

Contest Rules and Guidelines Entries must be received by **March 11, 2010**

Who is eligible to enter the contest?

- Students in grades: K-3, 4-5, 6-8, 9-12
- Students must be 5-19 years old on the March 11, deadline date. Youth older than 19 who are still enrolled in high school are eligible, but college students, even if 19 or younger, are not.

What is the entry deadline?

- No entries will be accepted after March 11, 2010.
- We are not responsible for entries that are late or lost in the mail.

What are the entry requirements?

- All poems must be original work.
- Written poetry must be either typed (preferred) or legibly written in ink (pencil does not photocopy.) Poems **should not exceed 32 lines in length**. The student’s name, school and city should be on the poem, and a completed Contest Entry Form should be **stapled back to back with each poem, with both the poem and entry form facing out**. Poems not submitted in this format, or with incomplete or illegible writing will not be judged. We are only able to accept poems in English.
- Students may enter the contest as many times as they like, but a separate entry form must be completed for each submission.

What about prizes?

- All entrants will be acknowledged with a Poetry Contestant Certificate.
- Selected poems may be published on the Library Foundation website.
- Prizes will be award to each grade category.
- Winners will be contacted by telephone.
- No response to prize notification will result in forfeiture of the prize.

Are there any release and consent stipulations?

- Submissions become the property of the Walnut Creek Library Foundation. Through submission of poetry, contestants and their legal guardians grant non-exclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted, **which will not be returned**.

Who should I mail my poem to?

Mail your entry to: The Walnut Creek Library Foundation
Poetry Contest
P.O. Box 4979
Walnut Creek, CA 94596