Reagan Academy 2019 Poetry Contest

It's time for Reagan Academy's annual student poetry competition. Please read the contest rules here and keep in mind that parents must give permission for entries to be published in the 2019 poetry book. <u>Every student who enters will receive a prize</u>. In addition, the poetry book will be available to order (at very low cost) from the school at the end of April or beginning of May. If you need some ideas to help you get started creating a poem, be sure to visit the websites suggested at the bottom of this page. Here is what you need to know:

- **<u>Parents</u>**: Parents must sign the permission slip attached to this sheet to allow your child's poem to be published. A PDF version of the permission slip is also available on the library website main page (under links on right).

- **<u>How to Enter</u>**:   Poetry **must** be typed and submitted electronically either in the body of an email or as an attachment to an email (attachments for poetry may be sent in .doc, .docx, .jpeg, .gif, or .png format). Poems should be emailed to librarian@reaganacademy.org before midnight of March 29, 2019.   <u>The subject of the email should be labeled</u>: "**Poetry Contest 2019**." In the email, be sure to include the submitting student's:
    - first and last name
    - grade level
    - homeroom teacher's name

    *<u>Entry Exceptions</u>: Poems where the words form the shape of a picture that cannot be reproduced by typing will be accepted as long as the handwriting is legible and the poem can be scanned into a document and submitted electronically in one of the following formats: doc, .docx, .jpeg, .gif, or .png.

- **<u>NO Illustrations</u>**: Illustrations have been very difficult to add to the final book. Please, no poems with illustrations. Exceptions to this rule would apply to poems where the words of the poem form the shape of a picture. Poems submitted with illustrations might not be eligible for publishing.

- **<u>Contest Dates</u>**: This year's contest runs from February 25-March 29, 2019. All poems submitted must be the original work of the student submitting.

- **<u>Categories</u>**: Students may enter ONE poem in <u>each</u> category –
    1) Individual Category – poetry written by one individual student working independently of other people.
    2) Partner category – poetry written by two students. Partner poems made by two students in different grade/age levels will be judged with the grade/age level of the older partner. Poetry written by groups of three or more students will not be accepted.

- **<u>Prizes</u>**: Each student who enters a poem will receive a book fair poster (while supplies last) or a small library prize. In addition, a first place, second place, third place, and honorable mention "grand prize" will be awarded to contest winners. Entry prizes and grand prizes are limited to one per student.

- **<u>Judging</u>**: Poems will be separated into categories for judging based on the following grade levels: K-2, 3-5, and 6-8. Names and fancy fonts/computer embellishments will not be included with poems for judging. The judging panel will be made up of parents/teachers that are not associated with students in the grade category they are judging.

- **<u>Name the Book</u>**: All students who enter a poem are also eligible to suggest a title for this year's poetry book. If we choose your title, you will receive a free copy of the book. See the permission slip attached to this page for more information

<u>Need some help?</u> Here are two great websites students can access to get ideas and help in creating their poetic masterpiece!

Kenn Nesbitt, a former U.S. Children's Poet Laureate, teaches to children poetry writing tips and forms that students might use as a template for their own ideas: http://www.poetry4kids.com/blog/lessons/poetry-writing-lessons/

Writing with Writers: Meet 3 poets and learn their ideas for creating poetry:
http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/poetry/