



2026 Westfield Athenaeum Poetry Contest RULES AND GUIDELINES for all ages

April is Poetry Month! Celebrate by entering a poem in the Westfield Athenaeum's Poetry Contest. All entries submitted must meet contest guidelines. Poems that do not meet guidelines will not be accepted.

Entries will be accepted April 1st - April 30th, 2026, and may be submitted online at westath.org, OR in person to the Adult or Youth Services Circulation desks with the form below.

A reception will be held at the library to honor all of the poets on Thursday, May 21st at 6:00pm. Winners of the contest will be announced, prizes will be awarded, anyone will be welcome to read their poem, and refreshments and snacks will be provided.

Entries must meet the following contest guidelines. If a poem is submitted and then found not to meet the guidelines, judges reserve the right to disqualify the entered poem.

Guidelines:

1. All poems must be submitted with the Submission Form
2. Writers must indicate their age group on the application.
3. Only one (1) poem per person is allowed.
4. Only one (1) author per poem is allowed.
5. Poems must be typed or hand-written, with no illustrations or decorations.
6. The author's name must not appear anywhere on the poem.
7. The poem must have a title.
8. Poems must be the original work of the writer.
9. All entries become the property of the Westfield Athenaeum and will be bound into a book for public viewing in the Library.
10. All entries must be the work of the writer.

