



Pegasus Contest 2013

for Pennsylvania Students in grades 5 to 12 or for students in those grades anywhere who are dues-paid members of PPS, Inc

Prizes: First \$25, Second \$15, Third \$10 in each category —these poems will be published. Hon. Mentions and Citations listed but not published.

Deadline: Postmarked February 1,

CATEGORIES

1. **Rhymed Award:** for students in **Grades 5 & 6**
Subject, **Any** Form: **Rhymed 24 lines** or less*
Sponsor: Pennsylvania Poetry Society, Inc. Ed. Fund
2. **Unrhymed Award:** for students in **Grades 5 & 6**
Subject: **Any** Form: **Unrhymed, 24 lines** or less*
Sponsor: Wallace Stevens Chapter Fund
3. **Rhymed Award:** for students in **Grades 7 & 8**
Subject: **Any** Form: **Rhymed 24 lines** or less*
Sponsor: Pennsylvania Poetry Society, Inc. Ed. Fund
4. **Polvinale/Hunt Award:** for students in **Grades 7 & 8**
Subject: **Any** Form: **Free Verse 24 lines** or less*
Sponsors: Sandra Polvinale and Imogene Hunt
5. **Rhymed Award:** for students in **Grades 9-10**
Subject, **Any** Form: **Rhymed 4 to 20 lines***
Sponsor: Pennsylvania Poetry Society, Inc. Education Fund
6. **This Special Place Award:** **Grades 9-10** Sense of place, real or imaginary, **Free Verse, unrhymed 24 lines or less.***
Sponsor: Marilyn Downing
7. **Rhymed Award:** for students in **Grades 11 & 12**
Subject, **Any** Form, **Rhymed 24 lines** or less*
Sponsor: Pennsylvania Poetry Society, Inc. Education Fund
8. **Mariah Quant Memorial Award:** **Grades 11 & 12**
Subject, **Any** Form, **Unrhymed 24 lines** or less*
Sponsor: Richard Lake
9. **Illustrator's Award:** **Grades 5-12 for an imaginative cover sketch** vertical, not horizontal, black & white, **(not necessarily a flying horse)** to be used on cover of the PEGASUS Contest booklet of winning poems.
Sponsor: Pennsylvania Poetry Society, Inc. Education Fund

*** Please Note: Lines may not be longer than 60 characters including spaces between**

*Please
check
out
the
attached
sample
showing
how
an
entry
should
look.*

HOW TO ENTER

A student may enter only ONE poem in a category.

A poem may be entered only ONCE in the contest.

Send 2 typed copies of each on 8 1/2" by 11" **white** paper, with **Number & Category** in upper left. **NO** color, large or unusual fonts, **NO** illustrations. (Times Roman 12 preferred.) Single spaced, please.

On one copy only, at upper right:
Student's Name, Grade
Home Address,
School & Address of School
Teacher's Name & e-mail

At bottom of this sheet, signed in handwriting,

"This is my original work."

Mail all entries First Class, in a manila envelope to

PEGASUS Contest Chair
Marilyn Downing
137 Apple Lane
Hershey, PA 17033

If you have questions, e-mail
mmdowning1@verizon.net

No poems will be returned, so keep copies.

Poems with incomplete information, or which do not adhere to the rules, will be disqualified, so read the rules carefully.

SAMPLE FORMAT FOR PEGASUS CONTEST

CATEGORY 3.

James Doe, Grade 7
555 Any street,
Any Town, PA 15555
Any Elementary School
678 Main Street
Abracadabra, PA 15555
Mr. Teachme
mrteach@verizon.net

LUCKY

I used to have a pet boa named "Lucky."
We fed him live mice (which my mom thought was Yucky!)
He grew quite a lot, much faster than me,
and Mom said a zoo is where Lucky should be.

She intended to phone, find a home for my pet,
before he got too big like boas can get.
He already squeezed hard and I might end up dead,
still, saying goodbye was a moment I'd dread.

My friends and I all thought Lucky was cool,
and Dad helped me show him on "Pet Day" at school.
The guys liked the feel of his slippery skin
and all the girls shrieking was fun, made us grin.

One morning I noticed his glass cage was bare,
Lucky had vanished, he just wasn't there!
We looked everywhere--couldn't find him at all.
We think he slid into and hid in some wall.

Now the movers are here, they've been packing all day
and very soon we'll be moving away.
I said we should tell the new owners to call
If Lucky comes slithering out from a wall.

But my mom hollered loudly, "**NO! , NOT ONE WORD!**"
(I could have been deaf, and I still would have heard!)
And I'm hoping when Lucky's hide-and-seek ends,
He will come sliding out and make some new friends.

This is my original work *James Doe*

Here are a few helpful hints to avoid disqualification:

- Follow the rules for preparation, mailing, and student identification
- Choose the categories and grade level appropriate to the student entering
- Enter poems appropriate in subject and form stated for the category
- Do not use fancy, bold, extra large or too small fonts
- Single space lines within stanzas
- Limit line lengths to 60 characters or less, including spaces between words
- Proofread for spelling, grammatical, and usage errors
- Do not enter the same poem in more than one category

In addition, let me suggest some trends in contemporary poetry that may differ from traditional poetry styles:

- Normal capitalization—Most poets now follow normal capitalization rules of sentences or thoughts rather than beginning each line with a capital letter, which makes the poem difficult to read.
- Centering lines detracts from a poem, unless that shape creates an added meaning, as in a concrete poem
- Contemporary language is preferred over archaic words
- Best poems are written from the poet's genuine experience.
- Imagery, metaphors, and emotional levels add to poem's impact.

Although cash prizes are limited to first, second and third place, certificates recognize additional poems of merit and even non-winners benefit from the experience of polishing their work to compete, and their poems can be sent to other contests for another chance to win.

We hope to receive a packet of poems written by your students before the February 1st deadline, and we wish you good luck!

A poem which wins in the PEGASUS contest may be entered in the national Manningham Contest and compete for an additional award.

Also, if students want to compete in the NFSPS 2013 contest category for students, they can Google NFSPS for information. It is Category #50 in the NFSPS Annual Contest. Rules on the NFSPS website.

Marilyn Downing, Contest Chair