



The Mississippi Poetry Society



2020 “RISING STARS” Student Poetry Contest

Is Now Open for Submissions!

Postmark Deadline: February 3, 2020

Cash Prizes! Publication! Awards! Your Choice of Themes and Forms!

Five Divisions

Level 5: “Ascending Voices” Awards College Undergrad

*First Place: \$50, Second Place: \$30, Third Place: \$20
and Honorable Mentions as Merited*

*Sponsored by:
Coastal Coin Laundry of Ocean Springs, MS*

Level 4: “Rising Writers” Awards Grades 9-12

*First Place: \$30, Second Place: \$20, Third Place: \$10
And Honorable Mentions as Merited*

*Sponsored by:
Dr. Joe Jacobs of Meridian, MS*

Level 3: “Word Blazers” Awards Grades 6-8

Level 2: “Taking Flight” Awards Grades 4-5

Level 1: “Fledglings” Awards Grades 1-3

*First Place: \$30, Second Place: \$20, Third Place: \$10
And Honorable Mentions as Merited*

*Sponsored by:
Guaranty Bank, and Bank Plus of Belzoni, MS*

The Mississippi Poetry Society wishes to thank our community sponsors for their generous support!

MISSISSIPPI POETRY SOCIETY 2020 STUDENT CONTEST RULES

There is **no entry fee** for the MPS STUDENT AWARDS. The contest is open to all Mississippi students, grades 1-College undergraduate. Public, private, and homeschools are eligible.

1. Only **one poem per student** can be entered.
2. Entries must be on **regular 8.5" by 11" paper**, either computer-generated or typed.
3. Entries should **not exceed 35 lines**.
4. There are five levels in this contest: Level 1 encompasses grades 1-3; level 2 encompasses grades 4-5; level 3 encompasses grades 6-8; level 4 encompasses grades 9-12; and level 5 encompasses college undergraduates.
5. Participants should submit two **(2) copies of the poem** with the following requirements:
 - (a) The **first copy must show the poet's name, address, school name and address, grade level, and student's language arts teacher's name for grades 1-12 in the upper left corner.**
 - (b) **Only the grade level should appear on the second sheet.** However, if a specific form is followed, such as sonnet, limerick, etc., please **indicate the form on both copies.**
4. Place winners will be awarded a certificate and a monetary prize of \$30.00 for first place, \$20.00 for second place, and \$10.00 for third place. Honorable mentions will be awarded as merited. The poems that place in each category will be published in the "Rising Stars" section of the MPS contest journal or in a separate Student Contest journal. "Ascending Voices" (College undergraduate) winners will receive monetary prizes of \$50 for first place, \$30 for second place, and \$20 for third place. Honorable mentions will be awarded as merited.
5. Winning poems may be sent to the **Manningham Trust National Student Competition** as merited.
6. There is a **"postmark" deadline of February 3, 2020.** Send entries to contest chairperson:

Dr. Emory D. Jones
608 N. Pearl Street
Iuka, MS 38852

***Please read and sign** the following disclaimer, and include it with your poem:

* * * * *

I, the undersigned, do hereby acknowledge that this poem is **my original work and has not been copied in part or whole** from any other poem or poetry source.
