

2026 Wilmington Memorial Library

POETRY CONTEST



CONTEST RULES

- Your name should only be on this submission form and not on any page of your poem.
- The theme of your poem can revolve around nature, food, and/or farms, but is not required to.
- Poems can be in any style.
- Poems must not exceed 20 lines in length.
- Poems must not be larger than an 8 1/2 x 11 sheet.
- Only one submission per person.

Deadline for submission of poems to the Wilmington Memorial Library is Thursday, April 30.

WINNERS

A panel of judges will select winners in the following categories: Adult, High School, Middle School, and Elementary School Grades Kindergarten through 5th. **Winners and honorable mentions will be invited to Poetry Night on Wednesday, May 20 at 6pm, but all are welcome to attend.** Winners will receive a book of poetry from the Friends of the Library and honorable mentions will receive a coupon for the Book Store Next Door.

NEED INSPIRATION?

Check out these ideas to help you get started:

- A farm grows food that nourishes our bodies; a library grows ideas that nourish our minds.
- If you planted a word like a seed, what would it grow into?
- What can a seed teach us about growing up?
- How do food and stories connect you to your community or people you love?
- What story does the land around you want to tell?
- What grows when stories are shared?

(ATTACH THIS FORM TO YOUR POEM)

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Caregiver or Teacher's Name _____

School _____ Grade (if 19+, write adult) _____

Title of poem _____

Your name should only appear on this form, not on any page of the poem.