



Johnson City Sesquicentennial Poetry Contest
Sponsored by Poetry Society of Tennessee-Northeast Chapter (PST-NE)

ENTRY INFORMATION:

Entries will be accepted during the month of October. Poems postmarked after Thursday, October 31, 2019 will not be eligible for the contest.

Submit all entries to: PST-NE, Attention: Johnson City (150) Poetry Contest
P.O. Box 3772, Johnson City, TN 37602

E-mail entries will not be accepted. There is no entry fee. For additional information, call Rose Klix at 423-262-8724. Do not call or email to verify entry receipt.

CONTEST CATEGORIES:

The contest is open in two categories: **adults** and **high school students**. Eligible students are those who are currently enrolled or home-schooled at the high school level. For high school students under 18 a parent, guardian, or teacher must submit a statement that the student created the poem him/herself.

ENTRY RULES AND FORMAT:

Contest entries must be original, unpublished, and the work of one poet. The poem may not have won a cash prize in any other contest prior to this competition. Entrants are limited to one entry. Multiple submissions will result in disqualification. Poets are encouraged to keep a copy of their work, as entries will be shredded after awards are made.

Subject matter: Submitted poems should be about Johnson City (i.e. the city's history, culture, people, iconic architecture, environment, parks, gardens, growth, etc.) Negative descriptions will be disqualified.

Form and length: For the adult category, any form (i.e., free verse, sonnet, pantoum, etc.) with a maximum of 30 lines will be accepted. In the student category, students are required to create an acrostic poem using the letters in either JOHNSON CITY or SESQUICENTENNIAL as the first letter of each line.

Submission: Poems must be typed (single spaced, in legible 11 or 12 point font only) on standard 8.5 x 11 white paper. Handwritten poems will not be accepted. Poems should be submitted in one #10 business size envelope. On the outside of the envelope indicate Sesquicentennial Contest - Adult category or Student category.

Submit two copies of the poem:

1. On one copy, indicate category (student or adult) in upper left corner. For adult category, also indicate poetry form. Do not include poet's name or other identification.
2. Repeat information on second copy, and in the upper right corner include poet's name, mailing address, and e-mail address (if available). Students should also include age and high school name or home-school program.

PRIZES AND AWARDS CEREMONY:

Prizes: Each category: 1st place \$25; 2nd place \$15; 3rd place \$10, and up to seven honorable mentions based on judges' discretion.

All entries will be blind-judged by qualified persons selected by PST-NE. All winners will be notified by mail. All certificates and notification of wins will be mailed after the judges' selections are final.

Winning poets' names and poem titles will be posted on the Facebook page of Poetry Society of Tennessee – Northeast Chapter (@poetrysocietytnne). Winning poems may appear on the Facebook page of the Johnson City Sesquicentennial Celebration (@JCTN150), other Johnson City social media channels, the Johnson City website, and in printed materials. Winning poems will also be included in the 2019 Sesquicentennial Time Capsule.

Winners and honorable mentions will be invited to read their submissions at a recognition ceremony in November. All participants and members of the public are invited to attend this special event.