

**POETRY CONTEST – 2021/2022 Academic Year**  
**Sponsored by Seward County Community College**

**2021-2022 POETRY CONTEST RULES:**

1. Read the rules carefully before signing the entry form. The entry form is to be signed with the name typed into the signature space. Before you sign, carefully read the statement above the signature block.

**2. Entry deadline: Before midnight CST on December 1, 2021.**

3. Poems must be original work composed entirely by entrant and never before published or submitted for publication.

4. All entries must be typed and submitted as a jpeg or pdf. No handwritten poems will be accepted. No shareable links will be accepted.

5. Poetry will be judged on originality, quality, skillful use of language and poetic devices, and freedom from grammatical and typographical errors.

6. The discovery at any time that an entry in whole or in part is the result of plagiarism or other unethical action will result in disqualification from the contest and forfeiture of any and all prizes.

7. Winners will be notified by email on or before January 10, 2022.

8. Three categories of entries are available. Each entrant must choose one:

A. Open Category – anyone 18 years of age or older. This includes SCCC students and faculty. High school juniors and seniors no matter the entrant's age are in High School (H.S.) Juniors and Seniors Category; if you are a high school junior or senior while being an SCCC concurrent student, you are in the H.S. Juniors and Seniors category.

**OPEN PRIZES:**

First Place: \$25, \$50 Amazon card, \$50 SCCC Bucks, & other prizes

Second Place: \$15, \$25 Amazon card, \$25 SCCC Bucks, & other prizes

Third Place: \$10 cash \$10 Amazon card & other prizes

Honorable Mention: \$10 Amazon card & Certificate of Merit

Special Award for best poem by SCCC student: \$25 cash, \$50 Amazon card, \$50 SCCC Bucks, & other prizes

B. High School (H.S.) Juniors and Seniors Category – any junior or senior enrolled in a public or private high school or home school program (grades 11-12) during the 2021-2022 academic year. All high school juniors and seniors no matter the entrant’s age must enter the H.S. Juniors and Seniors Category.

H.S. JUNIORS AND SENIORS PRIZES:

- First Place: \$25 cash, \$50 Amazon card, \$50 SC Bucks, & other prizes
- Second Place: \$15 cash, \$25 Amazon card, \$25 SC Bucks & other prizes
- Third Place: \$10 cash, \$15 Amazon card & other prizes
- Honorable Mention: \$10 Amazon card & Certificate of Merit

C. Young Poets Category -- any student enrolled in a public or private school or a home school program in grades 6-10 during the 2021-2022 academic year.

YOUNG POET PRIZES:

- First Place: \$40 cash & other prizes
- Second Place: \$30 cash & other prizes
- Third Place: \$20 cash & other prizes
- Honorable Mention: Certificate of Merit & other prizes

9. A blind process will be used for the selection of the winning poems by a judge not associated with SCCC.

10. Contest winners and all who enter the contest will be invited to read from your entry at a live-stream event to celebrate National Poetry Month. Prizes will be awarded at the event or forwarded after the event to winners who cannot attend.

11. **A complete entry includes (1) a completed online entry form, (2) one or two poems submitted in pdf or jpeg format, and (3) signature. If you are in the HS or Young Poet category, SCCC will contact a parent or guardian for a release form to be signed.**

12. For help, contact: Lori Muntz, English Instructor, SCCC: [lori.muntz@sccc.edu](mailto:lori.muntz@sccc.edu) / 620-417-1456 or Terri Barnes, Humanities Division Secretary, SCCC: [terri.barnes@sccc.edu](mailto:terri.barnes@sccc.edu) / 620-417-1451.

13. Any update or correction to the rules will be posted to the SCCC website.