



# DEPARTMENT 29 OPEN CLASS POETRY & CREATIVE WRITING

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## SUPERINTENDENTS:

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**Before entering,** please refer to Open Class Rules for rules and regulations on our website at [www.bentonfranklinfair.com](http://www.bentonfranklinfair.com).

1. Entries to be dropped off Sun., 8/23, between 10am – 6pm in Building 3.
2. All exhibits will be released Sun., 8/30, from 8am – 10am. Fair personnel and Superintendents are not responsible for items left after 10am.
3. Entries shall be judged on the following points:
  - a. Impact on the reader.
  - b. Focus and cohesiveness.
  - c. Adherence to the rules of the form if entered as representative of a specific poetic form.
  - d. The use of grammar and spelling.
4. No poem shall exceed 50 lines in length.
5. Short fiction and essays shall not exceed 1,500 words.
6. All entries should have a title on the front page and each page following. The title does not count toward lines or word count.
7. Exhibitors must make two copies of each entry:
  - The first copy is for judging use.
  - The second copy is for display use.
8. The **Judging copy** of each entry **MUST** be submitted on 8 ½” x 11” white paper using typed black print. It shall have no illustrations or the exhibitor’s name, just the title and page number.
9. The **Display copy** requires the exhibitor’s name on the front page under the title. This one must contain the exhibitor’s name, address, and phone number on the back of the last page. Pages are to be numbered and have a title on each page.
10. The **Display copy** may include drawings, illustrations, or other artwork. No glass frames.
11. The Fair is not responsible for damaged artwork. Entries will be stapled to backings and corkboard to be displayed.
12. Short story and essay submissions are to be typed, double-spaced with 1” margins and with pages sequentially numbered.
13. Essays should have an introduction and conclusion, with at least three paragraphs.

14. On the top right-hand corner of the front page, all entry copies must have:
  - a. Division
  - b. Class
  - c. Identification of form (if a poetic form was followed)
  - d. Age of entrant
  - e. Exhibitor's number
  - f. Word count
  - g. Line count (poem only)
15. Exhibitors may enter any or all classes, but not more than six entries in any one class.
16. Judge's decisions regarding adherence to poetic form and appropriateness of topic and language are FINAL.

### **Special Awards – Ribbon Only**

Best of Show / Award of Merit / Reserve Best of Class  
 Reserve Best of Show / Special Award / Superintendent's Choice  
 Sweepstakes / Educational / People's Choice  
 Fair Theme Award / Best of Class

### **Premium Points**

<u>Blue</u>	Red	<u>White</u>
12	8	6

### **DIVISION**

- A. Youth Poems
- B. Adult Poems
- C. Special Needs

### **CLASS**

- |                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Rhymed</li> <li>3. Fair Theme/Building Theme</li> <li>5. Humorous</li> <li>7. Gothic</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Free Verse</li> <li>4. Cowboy</li> <li>6. Patriotic/Military</li> <li>8. Other</li> </ol> |
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### **DIVISION**

Also known as flash stories.

- D. Youth Short Stories
- E. Adult Short Stories
- F. Special Needs

### **CLASS**

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cowboy</li> <li>3. Fiction</li> <li>5. Creative Non-fiction</li> <li>7. Science Fiction</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Fair Theme/Building Theme</li> <li>4. Horror/Ghost Stories</li> <li>6. Patriotic/Military</li> <li>8. Other</li> </ol> |
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## DIVISION

These pieces are creative non-fiction, “the writer’s truth.”

- G. Youth Essay
- H. Adult Essay
- I. Special Needs

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## CLASS

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|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Analytical       | 2. Argumentative        |
| 3. Cause and Effect | 4. Compare and Contrast |
| 5. Expository       | 6. Persuasive           |
| 7. Research Essay   | 8. Other                |