



# Oklahoma Poem Contest 2026

To celebrate National Poetry Month and Oklahoma, the Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry has its annual contest that celebrates Oklahoma's state emblems.

To enter, write your own creative poem with the subject below that matches your age/grade level (grade for the 2025-26 school year). More details about the contest are at [ROMPoetry.com](http://ROMPoetry.com).

Kindergarten = Fruit: Strawberry	7 <sup>th</sup> = Vegetable: Watermelon
1 <sup>st</sup> = Furbearer Animal: Common Raccoon	8 <sup>th</sup> = Rock: Rose Rock
2 <sup>nd</sup> = Tree: Redbud	9 <sup>th</sup> = Bird: Scissortail Flycatcher
3 <sup>rd</sup> = Reptile: Collared Lizard	10 <sup>th</sup> = Mammal: Buffalo/Bison
4 <sup>th</sup> = Monument: Golden Driller	11 <sup>th</sup> = Floral Emblem: Mistletoe
5 <sup>th</sup> = Insect: European Honeybee	12 <sup>th</sup> = Butterfly: Black Swallowtail
6 <sup>th</sup> = Wildflower: Indian blanket	Adult = OPEN

## Contest Guidelines:

**CASH PRIZES totaling \$2,200**

1. Only Oklahoma residents are eligible to enter.
2. Poems will be judged in 14 categories: Kindergarten-12<sup>th</sup> grade, plus adult.
3. Cash awards will be given in each category. 1<sup>st</sup> = \$75, 2<sup>nd</sup> = \$50, 3<sup>rd</sup> = \$25
4. The maximum length for poems is 30 lines.
5. One poem per person.
6. Previous winning poems cannot be submitted again.
7. A signed Entry Form must be filled out and turned in with the poem.

**Contest Evaluation Criteria: See [ROMPoetry.com](http://ROMPoetry.com) for these details in order to have the best chance of writing a winning poem.**

**DEADLINE: Postmarked or Hand-Delivered by March 7, 2026**

Your name should not appear on the poem itself. Entries are only accepted through postal mail or in person (no email entries). Mail your poem with the attached entry form to:

**Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry PO Box 1243 Locust Grove OK 74352**

Questions/Comments about the contest can be emailed to [ROMPoetry@gmail.com](mailto:ROMPoetry@gmail.com).

# 2026 Oklahoma Poem Contest Entry Form

**Staple this page to a copy of your poem. Your name should not appear on the poem itself.**

Name:

Title of Poem:

Circle Category:   K   1<sup>st</sup>   2<sup>nd</sup>   3<sup>rd</sup>   4<sup>th</sup>   5<sup>th</sup>   6<sup>th</sup>   7<sup>th</sup>   8<sup>th</sup>   9<sup>th</sup>   10<sup>th</sup>  
                            11<sup>th</sup>   12<sup>th</sup>   Adult

Full Mailing Address:

School (unless adult):

Phone:

Email Address (IMPORTANT—This is how winners will be notified. Print clearly.):

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## ORIGINALITY CONFIRMATION

**This must be signed in order to enter the contest.**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Print Your Name),

confirm that the attached poem was written by me and is original to me.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

\_\_\_\_\_ I give permission to have my poem printed in a possible anthology.\*

\*Rights always belong to the author.