



# 2012 Hardin Co. 4-H Poetry Contest

## RULES OF THE CONTEST

1. Age divisions: **A. Junior: 9-13 age as of January 1, 2012 / B. Senior: 14-18 age as of January 1, 2012.**
2. Poems must be the original work of the 4-H member. Poems from other sources WILL NOT be accepted. A signed statement of authenticity must be submitted with the poem.
3. POEM MUST BE TITLED and may be on ANY SUBJECT.
4. No clipart is to be included.
5. Required length of poem:
  - A. Juniors— 3 line minimum, 25 line maximum
  - B. Seniors—3 line minimum, 28 line maximum
 \*Please note: Haikus are one sentence, 17 syllables on 3 lines—5, 7, 5
6. Poems must never have been published or submitted to another contest.
7. No poems will be returned.
8. Poems will be judged using the attached judging guide (on back).
9. The top 12 poems will be entered in the District contest and will be published in a District 5 Poetry Book. Poetry books should be available by mid-April. Estimated cost per book \$3.25-\$3.50. The top three poems in both the District junior and senior categories will be framed and presented to their authors.

***ENTRY DEADLINE: Monday, February 20, 2012***

## **POEMS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN THE FOLLOWING THREE FORMS:**

- \* E-mail using a Microsoft word attached file with 4-Hers name, age and county using the following format:
  - \* Times New Roman font, size 12
  - \* Single spaced
  - \* Margins of 1" on all sides
  - \* DO NOT USE ANY FORMATTING including tabs, bolds, italics, underlines, etc.
  - \*Skip one blank line after title, one blank line after poem's ending (before identifying information)
  - \* Each line of identifying information should be on a single line at bottom of poem, left aligned in this format:
 

**First Name Last Name**  
**Age: (Numeral, not junior or senior)**  
**Hardin County**
- \* Only one poem per page
- \* Printed hard copy **with** 4-Her's name, age and county at end of poem
- \* Printed hard copy **without** 4-Her's name, age or county



**All questions and poetry entries should be sent to:**

Marla Stillwell, Hardin County 4-H  
 201 Peterson Drive  
 Elizabethtown, KY 42701

Phone: 270-765-4121 E-mail: [marla.stillwell@uky.edu](mailto:marla.stillwell@uky.edu)



# 4-H Poetry Judging Guide



## I. GENERAL - 10%

- Suitable for age
- Work is obviously the work of a 4-H'er (Disqualification for ANY plagiarized work)
- Meets basic contest standards: titled, correct length, submitted by deadline

## II. POETICAL DEVICES - 30%

- Rhyme* - is it appropriate? Does it contribute rather than draw attend to itself? f poem does not have end rhyme, does this seem effective, natural, appropriate?
- Rhythm*
- Stanza Format* - follows a pattern?
- Figures of Speech* - metaphor, simile, alliteration?
- Imagery*

## III. ORIGINALITY AND EXPRESSION - 50%

- Choice of Topic* - interesting and catches the attention of the reader and allows reader to experience things in a way never before seen or thought. Leaves rooms for reader's imagination and interpretation.
- Vocabulary Control* - *word* selection, use of vivid adjectives, active verbs, not using trite expressions, etc. Ability to create sensory experiences or images.
- Fluency* - moves along smoothly
- Continuity* - seems to begin and end with some sense of direction. Sentences make sense together.

## IV. MECHANICS - 10%

- Punctuation
- Spelling
- Capitalization
- Correct Word Choice

## 4-H POETRY CONTEST *Statement of Authenticity*

This is to verify that the poem I have entered in the 4-H Poetry Contest is my original work. I further verify that this poem has never been published and has not been submitted to the 4-H contest before this year.

I give permission for my poem:

- To be submitted for district judging.
- To be published in the local newspaper.
- To be printed in a District 5 4-H Poetry Contest book.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Member's Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent/Guardian/Teacher Signature*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_