

**Poets of the San Joaquin
Seventeenth Annual
Aileen Jaffa Young Poets Contest
Awards Ceremony May 19, 2012**

This contest is offered as a means of encouraging young writers throughout Stanislaus County and as a way to remember our founding president, lover of poetry and advocate of youth activities, Aileen Jaffa.

Eligibility and Deadline

Any student enrolled in a Stanislaus County school, grades K through 12, is eligible to submit up to 3 entries, at \$1 per entry. Each entry, except for typing, **must be the original creative work of the student**, although parents or teachers may provide encouragement. Poets of the San Joaquin reserves the right to reject poems which are submitted as class sets.

Postmark deadline for submissions is Friday, April 20, 2012.

Mail to: Young Poets Contest, Poets of the San Joaquin, P.O. Box 1161, Modesto, CA, 95353-1161.

Categories

Poems will be placed in categories according to the student's year in school.

1. grades K – 3 2. grades 4 – 6 3. grades 7 – 9 4. grades 10 – 12

Judging and Entry Specifications

Poems will be judged by adult poets/teachers who are knowledgeable about young people's work. **Any poem that shows evidence of plagiarism will be disqualified.**

Poems may be in any style, but no longer than 24 lines. Two copies of each poem must be submitted; one copy should contain the title and poem, but *no identification of the author*; the other copy should contain the student's name and a copy of the entry form below, and the \$1.00 entry fee.

Awards and Recognition

Two \$60 Aileen Jaffa Outstanding Poem awards will be given, one in grades K–6, and one in grades 7–12, sponsored by the Modesto branch of the National League of American Pen Women. First, second and third place winners in each of the categories will also receive cash awards. At the judge's discretion, Honorable Mention certificates will also be awarded. Winning poems will be printed in a booklet. Winners will be notified by May 10, 2012. Students will receive their awards and the winning poems will be read at an Awards Ceremony at 1 p.m. on May 19 in the Auditorium of the Stanislaus County Library, 1500 I Street, Modesto.

For more Information

Questions regarding the contest should be directed to Cleo Griffith at 543-1776.

Fill out and attach a copy of this form to one copy of each poem

Name _____ Grade Level _____

Address _____ Home Telephone _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

School _____ Teacher _____

Category 1. grades K – 3 2. grades 4 – 6 3. grades 7 – 9 4. grades 10 – 12

Title _____ Entry Fee Paid _____

I certify that the above poem is my own original creation. *(Signed)* _____