**Now in its twenty-fourth year, the Poetry Institute’s Young Writers Poetry contest for young writers is getting started.**

Cash/book prizes will be awarded to schools and young writers in this contest, and certificates for Awards of Excellence. A draw for one of three books will be award to Irwin student entries.

There are two age groups: 5-12 years and 13-18 years.

The best work will be published in a high-quality anthology.

Each entry can be up to 24 lines or less (spaces between stanzas or titles are not included).

Every young writer whose work is accepted will receive a certificate of achievement. Writers whose work is not accepted will receive a bookmark gift for participating.

Please ensure there is a “student entry form” attached to each student’s entry.

There can be one entry per poet.

Student Prizes: There are also $60 first prizes for the writers of the best work for each region and age group (5-9; 10-12; 13-15; 16-18); three $25 prizes for runners-up for each region and age group (5-9; 10-12; 13-15; 16-18); and over 75 Award of Excellence certificates.

School prizes: A first prize of $250 to the school sending in the best overall group of entries (for each age group 5-12; 13-18); three second prizes of $50 and three third prizes of $25 (for each age group 5-12; 13-18); and two bonus prizes\*: (25) copies of anthology for their classroom (1 age group only) with the most accepted entries; (10) copies of anthology for their classroom (1 age group only) with the second most accepted entries.

**Please submit your entries to Mr. Biem by November 14th, 2017**