

## Rules & Registration – 4/Arts Productions

“The Song of America” by George Jarden

### “Say-The-Poem \$50 Prize Invitation”

Recite the Poem “O Captain, My Captain” from memory

---(see **the poem** below)

1. Must be age 12 or under.
2. Memorize the poem “O Captain, My Captain,” and be able to recite it from memory.
3. The first two students to register for one of the 3 “The Song of America” shows must come to the show to recite the poem. (Therefore, a total of 6 Registrants will recite at a show.)
4. Subsequent Registrants (after the first 6 who register) will be given a suitable date/time to recite the poem before the 4/Arts Productions Honorarium Committee.
5. All properly registered students who successfully recite the poem, either at a show or before the Committee, will receive a \$50 honorarium check. (Small errors in reciting may be excused and may not automatically disqualify a reciter.)
5. Deadline for Registration is 12:00 Noon, August 20, 2024

#### 6. REGISTRATION:

1. Questions – call/text George Jarden (575) 652-7301
2. *Text or Email* completed REGISTRATION FORM to George Jarden (575) 652-7301  
[georgejarden@gmail.com](mailto:georgejarden@gmail.com)

About the poem “O Captain, My Captain” Just 5 days after Confederate (Southern) General Robert E. Lee surrendered to Union (Northern) General Ulysses S. Grant, ending the U.S. Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln was shot, the evening of April 14, 1865; Lincoln died a few hours later, the morning of April 15, 1865. American poet Walt Whitman wrote the poem “O Captain, My Captain” soon after Lincoln’s death, and it became very famous. The poem uses a literary device called a “metaphor” – comparing the U.S. country to a *ship* which has survived a long and terrible time – a “fearful trip” (the Civil War), and characterizes (in metaphor) Lincoln as the *Captain* of the *Ship*, who has led the *ship* home to port with “the prize won” – meaning winning the War and preserving the Union.

#### “O Captain, My Captain”

O captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done,  
The ship has weather'd every rack, the prize we sought is won,  
The port is near, the bells I hear, the people all exulting,  
While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring;  
But O heart! heart! heart!  
O the bleeding drops of red,

Where on the deck my Captain lies,

Fallen cold and dead.

O Captain! my Captain! rise up and hear the bells;

Rise up—for you the flag is flung—for you the bugle trills,

For you bouquets and ribbon'd wreaths—for you the shores a-crowding,

For you they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces turning;

Here Captain! dear father!

This arm beneath your head!

It is some dream that on the deck,

You've fallen cold and dead.

My Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still,

My father does not feel my arm, he has no pulse nor will,

The ship is anchor'd safe and sound, its voyage closed and done,

From fearful trip the victor ship comes in with object won;

Exult O shores, and ring O bells!

But I with mournful tread,

Walk the deck my Captain lies,

Fallen cold and dead.

4/Arts Productions, Inc. – **"The Song of America"** by George Jarden **2024**

## **"Say The Poem \$50 Invitation"** – For Students age 12 years and under.

See **RULES & REGISTRATION**, [georgejardenshows.com/thesongofamerica](http://georgejardenshows.com/thesongofamerica)

**Questions** – call/text George Jarden (575) 652-7301

### **REGISTRATION FORM**

*Text or Email* completed Registration Form to George Jarden (575) 652-7301

[georgejarden@gmail.com](mailto:georgejarden@gmail.com)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: CELL \_\_\_\_\_ HOME \_\_\_\_\_

email if available \_\_\_\_\_

**Which Performance** of **"The Song of America"** do you want to attend (check one)

FREE Performances are at 3100 Karen Drive, Las Cruces, NM

(You may still come to a performance even if you are not chosen to recite at a performance)

#### **Performances 2024**

Friday August 30 6:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_ how many seats?\* \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday August 31 3:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_ how many seats?\* \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday September 1 3:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_ how many seats?\* \_\_\_\_\_

\*(Seats Reservation):

( !!! **Including yourself**, number of seats needed for you  
(and others coming with you to the performance)

I understand that to qualify for the \$50 honorarium, I must

- memorize the poem "O Captain, My Captain,"
- complete this Registration Form and submit it by the deadline, August 20, 2024 at 12:00 Noon, and
- appear to recite the poem as assigned, either at one of the 3 performances of "The Song of America" 2024, if I am selected to do that; or, at a date assigned to me to recite it before the 4/Arts Productions, Inc., Honorarium Committee. (I will be given choices of dates/times suitable for me.)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

student applicant

\_\_\_\_\_

parent/guardian