



Lakewood Pan American Association

Providing cultural and educational opportunities in our community since 1946

Poetry and Poster Contest Instructions for 2026

An open invitation to K-6 students and families to participate in our annual contest

Dear Administrators, Educators, PTA/PTO groups, Lakewood Families and K-6 Students,

Our organization has run an annual poetry and poster contest since 1974. Our target group is students in grades K-6 found in schools which support Lakewood residents, either in Lakewood or found in the nearby surrounding area. The Pan Am Poetry and Poster Contest is a way for these students to explore ways of expressing thoughts about themselves and our community through their artwork. We are proud to supply a community-based theme and the students take it from there. The theme for this year's poems and posters is: "I Belong to my Community Because..."

Sincerely,
Dan Wamba
President, Lakewood Pan American Association

Questions? Please contact us here: PanAm90713@gmail.com

The theme for this year's poems and posters is: "I Belong to my Community Because..."

Include this signed parental release form with the student's artwork

On this form, please print student's first and Last Name, and on the poem or poster, please use only first name with last initial only per the example:

For safety, we suggest limited name on the artwork such as: Jon Y. – 3rd Grade

I, Parent/Guardian of:	(Student's first & last name)	Grade	School:
			Teacher:

grant my permission for the Lakewood Pan American Association to release an image of the artwork and the limited name information of the student to the Lakewood Pan American or Lakewood City websites, presentation in our local libraries, the Pan Am history room, possible Lakewood evening community events, or local publications such as newspapers or magazines.

Parent/Guardian's Name:
(Please print parent/guardian's first and last name)

Family's email or phone # for Pan Am to send invitations if there is a possibility of an award event	
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(required) Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____

By the due date of **3/6/2026**, before 5 P.M., deliver artwork and the signed parental release to:

Angelo M. Iacoboni Library, 4990 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, CA. 90712

What happens after the artwork is turned over to Pan Am? All poetry and posters will be judged and then shown for a short time in the display case inside the Iacoboni library. From there all the artwork goes to Mayfair Park for display in our Pan Am history room, to be shown on Friday evening, 5-8-26 and Saturday, 5-9-26. Families are invited to swing by our public viewings and find their favorite artwork.