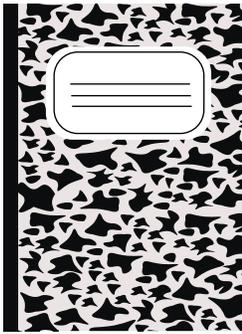


YOUTH POETRY CONTEST

JUNETEENTH



LVL 1: GRADES 3-5 EMERGING VOICES

LVL 2: GRADES 6-8 DEVELOPING STORYTELLERS

LVL 3: GRADES 9-12 POWERFUL PERSPECTIVES

Write an original poem that captures the idea of Liberation through Education. This could be a personal reflection, a historical perspective, or even a fictional story told through verse. You can write in any poetic form —rhymed, free verse, haiku, or something unique!

DEADLINE: APRIL 30, 2026

**CITY OF CAMDEN
AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMISSION, INC**



PASHA ARTS

YOUTH POETRY CONTEST

Your Challenge:

Write an original poem that captures the idea of liberation through education. This could be a personal reflection, a historical perspective, or even a fictional story told through verse. You can write in any poetic form—rhymed, free verse, haiku, or something unique!

Consider these guiding questions as you write:

- What does it mean to be free through learning?
- How has education changed your life or the lives of others?
- Can knowledge be a key that opens doors or breaks chains?

Winner Awards:

- Gift card reward
- Certificate of Excellence
- Poem published in the Juneteenth Calendar
- Performance or presentation opportunity at the Camden Juneteenth Event
- Certificate of participation

Submission Details:

Quantity: One original poem per student.

Originality: Must be the student's own, unpublished work.

Required Information:

Student's full name, Grade level and school, Poem title, Teacher or parent/guardian name, and Contact email or phone number

How to Submit:

Method: Email poems as a PDF or Word document to Juneteenth@pashaarts.org.

Policy: Late submissions will not be accepted.

General Contest Guidelines

Originality: All poems must be the student's own original work.

Language: Use school-appropriate language.

Format: Typed submissions must include the title, student's name, grade, and school.

Judging Criteria: Creativity, clarity of theme, poetic technique, originality, and emotional impact.

LET YOUR WORDS SHINE AND SHOW US HOW LEARNING
LIGHTS THE WAY TO FREEDOM!