scifest

RANDOLPH COLLEGE 2024

SCIENCE TO THE HUMAN HEART

Finalists' Contributions from the
2024 Randolph College
Science Festival Poetry Competition

Poetry OF SCIENCE

contents

Poetry OF SCIENCE

contents

Poetry OF SCIENCE

contents

Poetry OF SCIENCE

contents

Bears and Pit Bulls

I wouldn't want to have double 3's
Of bears in my woods.
If 6 were near my trampoline
I'd stand as still as I could.
But I would love to have double 4's
Of pit bulls next to my bed.
The 8 of them would play and jump
And bark when they want to be fed.

First Place
Ra'Melo Johnson
Bedford Hills Elementary
Grade 1
Teacher: Chantelle Deddens

The Party

One little ant
Went on a hunt.
He found an orange
And let off a scent
And his friends all came
For supper.

Second Place
August Martin
Paul Munro Elementary
Grade 1
Teacher: Allison Cox

Numbers

Numbers
Numbers, numbers everywhere,
Even in my hair!
I see them at the store,
Numbers at my door!
I see them in the clouds,
People count them out loud!
Lots of numbers at my school,
Numbers, numbers are so cool!

Third Place
Amelia Spendlove
Bedford Hills Elementary
Grade 1
Teacher: Libby Taylor

What could it be?

There is a color that when I see
I get filled inside with glee.
The birds must like it as they fly
inside the sky
It is the water not the land
Maybe you will understand
I hope my hints were not too tough
maybe they were just enough.

Firas Al Maayn
Appomattox Primary
Grade 2
Teacher: Melanie Ranson

Termites and Puppies

I wouldn't want to have double 5's
Of termites in my room.
The 10 of them would eat the wood
And make me full of gloom.
But I would love to have double 4's
Of puppies playing fetch.
The 8 of them would look so cute
When they jump in the air and catch.

Selah Bailey
Bedford Hills Elementary
Grade 1
Teacher: Chantelle Deddens

Why?

Zebra Zebra why do you have stripes?
Lion Lion why do you have a mane?
Tiger Tiger why do you have a tail?
Fish Fish why do you have fins?
Cheetah Cheetah why do you have spots?
Dinosaur Dinosaur why do you have claws?
Rabbit Rabbit why do you have a cotton tail?
Turtle Turtle why do you have a shell?
Chameleon Chameleon why do you change color?

Penny Beeler
Appomattox Primary
Grade 2
Teacher: Melanie Ranson

Swinging through places of Science

I'm swinging through the forest.
I'm swinging through the forest.
I'm swinging to the seaside.
I'm swinging through the forest.
I'm swinging to the seaside.
I'm swinging so high, into the sky.
I'm swinging to outer space,
and landing on the moon!
I'm swinging so high, into the sky.
I'm talking to an alien
about swinging through our forests.

Leah Cerulli
Boonsboro Elementary
Grade 2

Cats and Bracelets

I wouldn't want to have double 6's
Of cats that go upstairs.
The 12 of them would hiss at me
And shed all of their hair.
But I would love to have double 10's
Of bracelets that shine.
I'd wear all 20 of them at once
And they'd get me feeling fine.

Traviona Clements
Bedford Hills Elementary
Grade 1
Teacher: Chantelle Deddens

Jungle Cats

The jaguar causes so much fright
when it pounces prey at night.
The leopard causes such a scare.
It's barely seen, it is quite rare.
The lion shakes me to the core
when it lets out its loud roar.
The tiger causes such alarm
for the animals it might harm.

Charley Cole
Appomattox Primary
Grade 2
Teacher: Melanie Ranson

Me and My Pet

My turtle was fun.
She would walk in the sun.
Her color was light green.
Sometimes she could be mean.
My turtle was very small,
because people are tall.
Fruit and vegetables are what she was fed.
She hid in her shell as a bed.
My pet turtle was fun.
We played in the sun.

Eden East
Under the Son Academy
Grade 2
Teacher: Ashley Jones

Fish

fish
colorful shiny
swimming fighting diving
scaly slimy
river

Sahil Singh
James River Day
Grade 1
Teacher: Hollyday Marks

Money

Money
Money in your pocket,
Money in the bank,
Money at the store,
Money in your safe.
We learn about Money,
We talk about Money.
We count money,
Everywhere you look – There's Money!

Margaret Sojka
Bedford Hills Elementary
Grade 1
Teacher: Libby Taylor

Poetry OF SCIENCE

Math Love

Two plus two equals four
four times four equals sixteen
but I love you more
if you know what I mean.

You equal my heart.
You are a work of art.

Stone Stough
Appomattox Primary
Grade 2
Teacher: Melanie Ranson

A Volcano is Like a Phoenix

Volcanoes: A churning pot of magma and gasses
A Witch's brew in a cauldron
Volcanoes: Erupting with the force of freight trains
Magma shooting out like cannonballs out of a cannon
Volcanoes: Sending fiery lava loose on the world
Earth catching fire like the Chicken Pox breaking loose
They shake the Earth with every new eruption
They burn down cities and forests with ease
They release kilotons of cinders into the atmosphere,
And yet they still help the environment
Volcanoes: A symbol of life and death
Creating it and just as easily taking it away
Volcanoes: the mothers and fathers of the atmosphere
Giving birth to it with millions of years worth of gasses
Volcanoes: The originator of rich soil
A natural fertilizer for Earth
A volcano is a phoenix,
It dies, but arises from the ashes

First Place
Archer Edmunds
R.S. Payne Elementary
Grade 5
Teacher: Gregory Lipscomb and Leah Byrd

Math Thoughts

Please let me do my math
Excuse my imperfections
Please let me learn from my mistakes
Oh my, Oh my so many corrections
Please help me to improve
And better understand it
Please help me to solve
Oh my, Oh my, math gives me a fit
But I will not quit!

Second Place
Saryiah Hairston
Dearington Elementary
Grade 5
Teacher: Tawanda Johnson

The Sea

Standing by the shore, high tide at a roar.
Sand swept under the shore, fish galore
Some in the dark depths of sea,
some close enough to where the eye can see.
The wonder glows for you and me.

But the dangers are real–like sharks and electric eels.
In the silence of the sea, danger awaits for you and me.
The sound of terror roaming in the sea.

But there are beautiful parts that I'm dying to see.
Like the big coral reef at the brink of the sea.
With the fish that glimmer and glim
So much in the sea just waiting to be seen

Third Place
Aria Gugliotta
Paul Munro Elementary
Grade 5
Teacher: Van Hofffman

Marvelous Mathematics

Multiplication
Always Ask Questions
Take Your Time
Hard Working
Enticing Equations
Memorize Numbers
Amazing Angles
Trial And Error
Interesting Measurements
Calculating Decimals
Show Your Work

Treveah Bradley
Dearington Elementary
Grade 5
Teacher: Tawanda Johnson

Water Circle

Sun beams warm in the morning dew.
Little droplets have no clue.
Soon they float to the sky.
The little droplets don't know why.
As they dance way up, so high.
The crisp wind chills, then they sigh.
"Squeeze and snuggle really tight.
We must hold on with all our might."
Little cloud begins to cry.
Each drop lets go- says goodbye.
So sadly, like tears they fall.
First a drop then finally all.

Olivia East
Under the Son Academy
Grade 3
Teacher: Ashley Jones

Sun and Moon

Sun
Fiery
Radiant, Blazing
Red, Warmth, Blinding
Lights Day … Illuminates Night
Cold, Silver, Bright
White, Powdery
Shining
Moon

Eve Flavin
R.S. Payne Elementary
Grade 5
Teacher: Gregory Lipscomb and Leah Byrd

Tik Tok

Tik Tok
Goes the sound of a clock
The ticking never stops
The second hand moving so fast
The minute hand following the second hand
And the Shortest moving ever so slightly
All the days
Followed by nights
Everyone wasting all their time
No matter young or old
No one realizes it until it's gone
Tik Tok
Goes the sound of a clock
But the ticking stopped . . .

Hannah Khan
R.S. Payne Elementary
Grade 5
Teacher: Gregory Lipscomb and Leah Byrd

The Forest

With its green leaves and animals galore,
The forest is a perfect place for you to explore.
Trees, animals, sky, and grass,
In the forest you can rest.
All your worries rush away,
To come back here another day.
Laying down on the forest floor,
Looking up at the canopy, a leafy green door.
Deer, birds, foxes, and trees,
Grass, sky, clouds, and leaves.
Anything is possible, any emotions.
You can do anything. It's the forest.

Eliza Millard-Raines
R.S. Payne Elementary
Grade 4
Teacher: Georgianna Cary

Your Brain

Some people think that the brain is extraordinary,
Others might think that the brain is just ordinary.
I've studied a little, so I have a link-
To anatomy of the brain, and here's what I think.
I've laid out my poem, just like a mosaic,
I'll give you the facts; I'll give you the basics.
Your frontal lobes control thinking and strategizing…
Short-term memory, planning and organizing.
The parietal lobes interpret sensory information,
Like taste, temperature, touch- wow- isn't that a
sensation?!
The occipital lobes interpret images from your eyes,
For instance, your friend's happy birthday surprise!
As an extra detail, let's say your friend's name is Henry…
Your lobes take those images and lock them into memory.
Now with all the information I share,
You'll discover what a remarkable brain is working under
your hair.

Lawson Neufeld
Homeschool
Grade 5
Teacher: Meredith Neufeld

Through my Eyes

Stars surround my eyes
As the stars shine
I think of them as glitter
The constellations like drawings
The colorful comets like paint brushes dipped in paint
The deep dark depths of the non ending black sky
The Planets like colorful spheres
some with rings
Colorful blasts in space called nebulas
Puffy clouds called The pillars of creation
Colorful galaxies

Anya Patel
Paul Munro Elementary
Grade 4
Teacher: Martha Clark

The Northern Lights

The Northern Lights
If you were to close your eyes and then blink awake to see a sky full of colors you couldn't believe.
Little ripples of colorful light.
Making the sky oh so bright.
And this spectacular event is what is known as the northern lights.
You can see them from the frigid snow of Greenland to the chilly temperatures of Main.
People see things they can't explain. Like what you'd see in your dreams. Or art in a gallery. Or something abstract far away.
Some people just see mesmerizing kaleidoscopes.
But some people just wish and hope to see these things. To wish to have the feeling of which they can't explain.

Riya Patel
Paul Munro Elementary
Grade 4
Teacher: Martha Clark

Geometry Poem

A cube has 6 faces
And that is quite enough don't want them in to many places
A dodecahedron has 20 vertices
memorizing that is not quite a breeze
An octagon has 24 edges
I know its a lot but don't fall off any ledges
If two lines are parallel
They are at the same angle as you can tell
We all would love to see another quadrilateral
All four sides it's just natural
Don't forget about the angle
If you forget that it's hard to untangle
What about the polygon
If you forgot about that then you need to get your knowledge back on
But what if a line is perpendicular
You can't forget that one in particular

Isaac Spontarelli
R.S. Payne Elementary
Grade 5
Teacher: Gregory Lipscomb and Leah Byrd

Our Solar System

The sun is the mainstream, the source of heat.
Powering the planets, all without taking a seat.
Mercury, the smallest planet throughout the neighborhood of stars.
A hot planet, maybe they have some spaceship parts?
Venus, named after the love god, maybe cupid has some competition.
From far away it has a nice lot, but when up close, it has a fiery reputation.

Earth, the planet home to life all throughout.
Maybe even having a big plough.
Mars, the great red planet for the family of solar.
When you land down onto it, you might get blown up by a red color!
Jupiter, a giant planet, biggest in the family.
It's made up of gas which has a giant eye, being the most famous!
Saturn, it has a beautiful ring made up of asteroids.
Looks like you could race on it, but you would become flustered.
Uranus, Never felt human legs.
It sure does smell like rotten eggs!
Neptune, The farthest planet from the stream.
Surely not the worst, but it does have some steam!
Our beautiful planets, through the universe.
There might be more that looks just like ours.

Logan Wallace
R.S. Payne Elementary
Grade 5
Teacher: Gregory Lipscomb and Leah Byrd

Starlight

In the dark, they twinkle above,
A celestial dance, filled with love.
Each one's a story, a dream afar,
Guiding us through the night, like a shining star.
They sparkle and shimmer, so bright and clear,
Whispering secrets that we hold dear.
They ignite our imaginations, set our souls free,
A cosmic symphony, for all to see.
From constellations, they form a tale,
Of heroes and legends, never to fail.
They remind us of our place in this vast expanse,
A reminder of the universe's grand romance.
So let's gaze up at the stars my friend,
And let the stars inspire us to no end.
For in their brilliance, we find our own light,
Guiding us through the darkness, in the journey of life.

First Place
Mia Galbraith
Linkhorne Middle
Grade 8
Teacher: Katie Cyphert

The Evolution of the Atom

Everything ever
Made of one thing
Dalton thought they were small spheres
Thomson said a ring
Later on was Rutherford
He used gold foil
To make a brand-new structure
The proton's change in tiny volume
Then in 1913
A scientist: Niels Bohr
Discovered the electrons went around
And the protons were stored
Erwin Schrodinger
Made a model in 1926
With help from Werner Heisenburg
The atom is this

Second Place
Danielle Boyers
Linkhorne Middle
Grade 7
Teacher: GIGi Sweeney

Poetry OF SCIENCE

middle school

Algae - A sonnet

Green and slimy, often on the water
A simple aquatic plant also seaweed
Brown or green adds color to blackwater
It is not seagrass, it is not duckweed
Pond scum is composed of the marine plant
It blooms from mere nutrients like a rose
While in moving water it appears quite scant
In stagnant water it vibrantly shows
I must get a bit more scientific
I'm talking cyanobacteria
Lives in saltwater like the pacific
Green like plankton, meets the criteria
Algae is quite a wondrous sight to see
Though it is something I would hate to be

Third Place
Charles Briggs
Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle
Grade 8
Teacher: Daniel Tucker

Poetry OF SCIENCE

middle school

A black sky with many things

Laying on the roof and looking at the stars
Listening to the honks of little cars
Wishing maybe I can fly straight to the moon
Someday, I'll get there soon
Looking at a bright,white light
Man, this is quite the sight

Sierra Calloway
Linkhorne Middle
Grade 8
Teacher: Katie Cyphert

Poetry OF SCIENCE

middle school

Polluted Waters

Water pollution,
has no solution,
It is something I cannot bear,
but the damage is already there.
I look out into the river,
seeing a sight that makes my lip quiver.
A river once thriving with life, now dead.
It seems as if the animals have fled.
This is not how our world is supposed to be.
I watch as the pond scum starts to pile up
turning the water dark green.
Water polluted with chemicals that are unseen.
This is not how our world is supposed to be.
Trickle, trickle, splish, splash.
I see a stream, once home to clear blue water,
has now turned to the color of ash.
Non-point or point source I really don't know,
but seeing this is enough to make my head blow.
This is not how our world is supposed to be.
I look upon the fishing lake,
It makes my heart want to break.
Upon the polluted shore, I see a broken oar,
and a little duckling, struggling for life.
This is not how our world is supposed to be.
I peer out into the sea
Upon seeing the trash piles I want to flee.
Plastic bottles, utensils, straws, and debris.
But could this pollution be because of me?
This is not how our world is supposed to be.
Water pollution,
has no solution,
It is something I cannot bear,
but the damage is already there.

Sara El-Ahdab
Linkhorne Middle
Grade 7
Teacher: Shannon Tomlin

The Unknown

The unknown is what we have never dreamt of
We may have to look to the stars above
The ocean takes part in things we ponder
When we explore what will we discover
There are ones who looked beyond what was shown
They are the only ones who have conquered the unknown

Ian Guelzo
Linkhorne Middle
Grade 8
Teacher: Katie Cyphert

What I learned:

My favorite subject was always science
I thought about all the cool things I would learn
Plants, animals and energy
Basic things that in a fourth grade mind sounded complicated
I soon learned that it wasn't just plants and animals it was organisms and cells
And energy wasn't just just work it's multiple forms of Kinetic and Potential energy
It seemed as I got older science wasn't just science at all
It varied from math, STEM, and chemistry broken down in aspects for me to take with me
I thank all my science teachers for telling me that science wasn't just science it was everything around us.

Mariah Matthews
Linkhorne Middle
Grade 7
Teacher: Shannon Tomlin

Limerick

The canyon wanted to be thin, thinking it wouldn't be such a bore
So its tectonic plates pushed against its core
The water helped in its plan
The water splashed down and promised they would weather it as fast as it can
Sadly, this process took 60 million years and more

Jaedyn Pollard
Linkhorne Middle
Grade 7
Teacher: Shannon Tomlin

All Kinds of Science

There's so many types of science you see
There's energy, atoms, and matter
Animals and Bee's
Water that splitters and splatters
Different types of trees
It makes the world around us
It makes us strong and free
It even makes a bus
You can't flea from science
Because its all around us
I'm truly glad that science is here
Or else I would not be alive
IT MAKES ME WANT TO CHEER
I hope science continues to strive

Charlotte Rhem
Linkhorne Middle
Grade 7
Teacher: GIGi Sweeney

Infinite Realm

Out in the universe,
There's so much to explore,
Could there be life?
Are there wonders galore?
In that vast expanse,
There is so much we could find,
Planets and galaxies,
A stellar divide.
From black holes to novas,
Moons, planets, and stars,
From our home in the milky way,
To galaxies afar.
We have only scratched the surface,
Much is still unknown,
Perhaps we may discover more.
Technology has grown.

Ethan Schmidt
Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle
Grade 8
Teacher: Daniel Tucker

Empty Space

The space in my brain where bad thoughts seem to go,
The space in my brain where the dark theories grow,
The space in my brain where my heart takes control,
The scary place in my brain where my mind starts to unfold,
I wish there was no space for this place where my brain makes mistakes.

Paige Sittason
Linkhorne Middle
Grade 8
Teacher: Katie Cyphert

ENERGY

Energy can't be created or destroyed in any shape or form.
Nuclear energy is one type of energy amongst others.
Energy is to be able to do work.
Radiant or light energy both go in electromagnetic energy.
Geothermal energy is another form of energy; it is like thermal energy.
You use radiant energy everyday. We can't go without it or we will be in the dark.

Cassandra Smith
Linkhorne Middle
Grade 7
Teacher: Shannon Tomlin

The big wave

Tsunamis, tsunamis, big waves we have to be brave
cause they come from when the ground shakes, and
there is no time to take breaks, in a scurry we have to
hurry, shoosh here comes the big wave.

Angelika Young
Linkhorne Middle
Grade 8
Teacher: Katie Cyphert

Poetry OF SCIENCE

high school

Gaza

Four Atoms
Line up
To make a tetrahedral

It's Fatal
First, the smoky air twists and fidgets in the still sky wanting to erupt
Into a cloud of white fire that glows in the dark unsuspecting night
Flames that cannot be put out by the stars in the darkness,

Stars that hold the wishes and dreams of frightened children and lost souls
Poisoning the roots of century old olive trees embedded in the soil

Indigenous people's homes and shops standing loyal
Unknowingly, an old woman shivers near her brazier, poking at the embers and coals

A young child, unaware, strokes and braids her sister's hair
Oblivious, a weary mother feeds her baby with gentle care
Does the little girl know what wavers in the air?
Tying up her fidgety sister's hair
A force made to melt metal
Atomic number 15
Melting point 111.57 degrees
Atomic symbol P
The spread reaches out to 820 feet
Enveloping the land and smothering the sea
In a choking phosphorus blaze
In a nightmare-like billowing haze

Stay safe old woman and little girl
Caring mother with a little one who barely knows this world

And the next time this fiery cloud is unfurled
Remember this chemical crime with its unique and deadly composition
Four atoms
Lined up
They made a tetrahedral
It was Fatal.

First Place
Dalia El-Ahdab
Homeschool
Grade 11

The Science of Skinny

The science of skinny is a fascinating thing
counting your calories and intake
all consuming
all knowing
science
A twelve year old girl knowing the exact calories in a cube of cheese
is skinny science at its core
knowing the good fats and the bad fats
experimenting with food combinations
to see what would make your tummy the flattest the next morning
Mint chewing gum and ice water
the perfect recipe for a nourishing meal
sure to leave you feeling light
light headed
The science of skinny kills 10,000 people a year
I don't discourage the discovery and experimentation
at least in the classroom
but don't experiment with your stomach
it kills

Second Place
Lucy White
E.C. Glass High
Grade 11
Teacher: Tressie Norton

Science to the human heart.

In labs where beakers softly hum,
In realms where knowledge seeks to come,
science dances, a comic waltz,
Unveiling truths in measured bolts.
microscopes unveil the unseen,
Galaxies in a cosmic sheen.
Equations scribe a precise song,
In the realm where facts belong.
Atoms whisper, molecules bond,
In the crucible, truths respond.
Newtons law and Einsteins gaze, Illuminate natures intricate maze.
Through circuits, electrons race, Unraveling mysteries, outer space.
A double helix, life's code unfolds,
In laboratories, stories are told.
From the microscope to the telescope's glance,
A quest for truth, a noble art,
In the language of the human heart.

Third Place
Anastasia Dixon
E.C. Glass High
Grade 9
Teacher: Tressie Norton

To the Numbers That Make Up the Universe

To the numbers that make the universe
That are larger than our very own sun
Yet smaller than the atoms which traverse
This world of which exists for every one
The knowledge they give cannot be compared
To reveal the secrets of existence
It is them who allow it to be shared
It is this that the number represents
When there are things that I don't understand
And when everything seems to blend and blur
Those numbers will extend a helping hand
To give me the strength to rise and conquer
So to those numbers that I care for so
I thank you for showing me how to grow

Luther Billings
Amherst County High
Grade 10
Teacher: Johnathan Olmstead

When In Doubt

I am a planet
You are the sun
I revolve around you,
My only one
But I can't get too close
You remain out of reach
Hidden from the heavens
Visible only to me
Or am I the forgotten one?
The one lost to history
Abandoned to the side roads
While you storm to the front
A universe orbiting,
Circling you
And calling you their sun
Or am I the only one?

Mila Lisette Boyd
E.C. Glass High
Grade 9
Teacher: Tressie Norton

Poetry OF SCIENCE

high school

African Dwarf Frogs

After the death of a beloved pet fish,
I found myself wanting something newish.
I decided and was ready to commit.
And the African Dwarf Frog seemed like a perfect fit.
They're aquatic and grow only 2 inches,
and the cost would require no riches.
I researched for hours from website to website, from Google to Reddit,
until I knew everything I would need to possess it.
I set up the tank with smooth plants to protect their skin,
and plenty of water to swim.
With a substrate that would surely make them grin.
I had all that I needed when I called the pet store.
It was then that the worker informed me that there were no more.
That was how I learned the heartbreaking truth.
The frogs were illegal because of something uncouth.
In Virginia, dwarf frogs are illegal due to people mistaking the dwarf for the clawed.
But if you ask me, their reasoning is flawed.
The clawed frogs are aggressive
and will eat anything that fits within their digestive.
They are invasive
and if released they will destroy anything native.
But the dwarf frogs are not the same. Instead, they are passive
and in desperate need of glasses.
They are too small to cause damage
and so very easy to manage.
They are banned for looking similar to another who acts criminal.
That's like arresting another for a crime committed by their brother.
These frogs are innocent,
so why are they forced to repent
for the crimes committed by their brethren?
So why, I ask, does Virginia law prohibit?
Are they scared of a little ribbit?
I know that this subject may seem quite odd,
but, by gosh do I want a frog!
Alas, the only way to get one is to illegally import
Wait no! Forget I said that. I don't want to go to court.

Emily Edson
Brookville High
Grade 11

Energy

Energy a force so grand
In every atom, it expands
Potential, kinetic, it can transform
from one form to another it performs
From the suns rays to power our day,
to the wind that makest the turbines sway
Energy flows through everything we see,
In motion it keeps our world so free

Noah Goff
Amherst County High
Grade 11
Teacher: Jonathon Collins

Poetry OF SCIENCE

high school

The Bittersweet Nullity

My curious eyes meet a mysterious force.
How beautiful it is.
A collapsed star,
But stronger and more beautiful than ever.
I feel its graceful hands pull me in.
I let it.
Its powerful claws draw me even closer
I am suddenly overwhelmed in a dreadful state of pain.
How could something so perfect,
so gorgeous,
be so treacherous.
This raw vigor could only be handled by one above all others.
An entity.
with the capacity to transform our very lives–our souls to its hearts content.
What is this?
A sign?
A sign that we know nothing of the empty space that surrounds us?
our universe?
our home?
Its unworldly grasp constricts to a drastic level.
Feeling my bones bend and twist,
Leaving me disfigured–mangled beyond repair.
Spaghettification has begun.
Equilibrium is nowhere to be found
In this dark abyss.
Nothing is real
Everything is an illusion.

Lily Hunt
E.C. Glass High
Grade 9
Teacher: Tressie Norton

A Reckoned Force

Gravity
holding me down
Gravity
making me feel so small
Gravity
keeping me in its thrall
Gravity
making my soul feel so bound
Gravity's
Pull it's always there
Gravity's
weight, it's like a persistent ache
But Gravity's hold will not define me,
I will rise and break free of its grip
Defying its constant trip.

Stellar Nordlund
E.C. Glass High
Grade 12
Teacher: Tressie Norton

You's, Me's, and I's of Astronomy

Aristotle, the earth is center and planets revolve around it,
Aristarchus, measured the distance from the earth to the sun and the moon,
Ptolemy, introduced epicycles,
Copernicus, proposed a heliocentric view of the world,
Galileo, discovered the moons of Jupiter,
Brahe and Kepler, collected and interpreted data on the moon
Me, what did I do,
I didn't discover the center of the earth,
Or the distance from the earth to the moon and sun,
I didn't introduce epicycles or propose a heliocentric view of the world,
Nor did I collect data and interpreted it's meaning in relation to the moon,
I didn't discover this,
No, no, I learned it,
I learned how Aristotle was sailing and saw a horizon one morning and realized the earth was round,
I learned how Aristarchus's measured distance to the moon from the earth was close to correct,
I learned how Ptolemy described the retrograde motion of the earth,
I learned how Copernicus made the Gregorian calendar,
I learned how Galileo made his own refracting telescope,
I learned how Brahe got his nose cut off and spent twenty years collecting data just for Kepler to interpret it,
I learned that these people shaped our view of the stars,
I learned Astronomy.

Kaelynn Smith
Amherst County High
Grade 11
Teacher: Johnathan Collins

Sky

In the stars we shine so bright
Dancing in the sky tonight
Waiting for the sun to shine
stars beaming through the sky
water glistening down below
Sleeping people lie in their homes
Say goodbye to the night sky
Be ready for the sun to shine

Jayden Smith
E.C. Glass High
Grade 9
Teacher: Tressie Norton

Pluto

Others say you aren't like them.
They say you're too different to be seen.
It's depressing how they outcast others for being different.
Most of them who get to pick and chose feel they are the sun,
Overlooking us like gods.
If we do not meet their wants we are forgotten and discarded.
In reality we are all just small beings,
Small beings who circle and spin in this vast universe.
Some of the forgotten were the wisest ever seen.
Pluto, I'm sorry for everything they've said to you.

Mika Via
E.C. Glass High
Grade 10
Teacher: Tressie Norton

The "World" Of Physics

You ever stop to wonder why the world works so well?
From the particles of thunder, to volcano show and tell.
Or volcanoes that are natural, physics really can't be beat,
Whether cases like the weather, or energies like our heat
We've used it for the betterment of the world that we reside,
But we've used it for destruction and that cannot be denied.
As we look from afar and see the puzzle piece align,
The little world of physics is incredibly divine.

Stephen Williams
Amherst County High
Grade 11
Teacher: Jonathan Collins

www.randolphscience.org

For more information contact scifest@randolphcollege.edu