



RANDOLPH COLLEGE POETRY JAM 2025

POETRY CONTEST: Theme – Any topic related to science or mathematics

We invite all K-12 students in Lynchburg and surrounding counties to submit science- or math-based poems.

Requirements: The theme of the poem must focus on science or math topic. Any poetry genre may be used, e.g. Haiku, limerick, free form, etc. Poems may be illustrated, but only the text will be judged. Poems may be handwritten or typed. All poems must be the original work of the student. Only one poem per student. Poems may be submitted by mail or electronically, and as an individual or as a class. Instructions below.

Qualified participants: All K-12 students are invited to submit a poem. Students or teachers may submit entries. We encourage teachers to have their entire class write and submit poems. Poems will be judged in four categories: primary, elementary, middle, and high school.

Submissions may be made any time between now and midnight, **February 28, 2025.**

Preferred submission is through the form linked below, but poems can be submitted any way you can get them to us. For all submissions, be sure to include: First and last name, grade, and school of the student, e-mail address for a contact for the entry (student, teacher, or guardian – preferably all three), and student t-shirt size if possible. If completed in class, be sure to include the teacher and school principal names and emails. Please include a poem title. If we do not have a valid e-mail, logistics may be such that we will not be able to notify you of receipt or of finalists. Our preference is for you to use <http://bit.ly/scifestjam> to simplify your submission, otherwise you can submit them any way: via email, shared Google drive, on paper, etc. Submissions by mail must be postmarked by February 28, 2025. Typed, scanned and e-mailed submissions are also due by the end of February 28, 2025. Submissions can be sent to scifest@randolphcollege.edu, or Randolph College Science Festival, Randolph College, 2500 Rivermont Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24503.

Judging: A panel of college judges will select finalists (52 poems: 13 from each grade category). Certificates and t-shirts will be awarded to poetry finalists. From the 52 poetry finalists, three top prizes will be awarded in the four grade level categories: primary, elementary, middle, and high school (\$100, \$50, \$25 for each grade level). Teachers will receive the same prize if the poem was done in their class which has more than 9 submissions for the poetry contest.

Award Ceremony: Finalists will be invited to read their poems, and the poems will be published in a book available free to all finalists. Parents and teachers will receive an invitation to this event, and the event is free and open to the public. If the winning poem is completed in class and submitted by the classroom teacher, the teacher will receive the same prize as the student. Top prize is a \$100 gift card! Finalists will be announced March 21, 2025.

**The Poetry Reading will occur at an awards ceremony held
Friday, March 28, 6-7:30 p.m.**

For location and more information about additional Science Festival Events visit
<http://www.randolphscience.org> or scifest@randolphcollege.edu