

**Mississippi Poetry Society
2026 Student Contest
Winners List**

Level 1 (Grades 1st-3rd)

1st Frolicking Flowers
2nd Balls to Play With
3rd Spike the Ball
HM#1 Have Fun
HM#2 Sports are Fun
HM#3 Horn Scrapes

Kenzy Flowers
Cambree Vice
Colson Roberts
Landon Havard
Layton Hakanson
Gratchel Welford

Level 2 (Grades 4th-5th)

1st The Homerun
2nd The Mirror and the Light
3rd Missing Jewel
HM#1 My Pencil
HM#2 Basketball
HM#3 The Nowhere Town

Ava Grace Scoggins
Dallas Pruitt
Maybreigh Fisher
Carson Mallett
Gabrielle Quave
Jackson Bolton

Level 3 (Grades 6th-8th)

1st The Quiet Heart of the World
2nd Guardian Angel
3rd Slow Bloom
HM#1 Love That Costs
HM#2 A Heavenly Prayer
HM#3 Between Stumps

Edwar Mendoza
Shundrea Butler
Karley Ware
Sarah Compton
Essence Mccray
Caylee Baucum

Level 4 (Grades 9th-12th)

1st House Upon a Hill
2nd Ode to the Lost Year
3rd Ode to Brief Moments of Silent Reflection
HM#1 Beyond Bodies
HM#2 Separate Ways
HM#3 My Love Does Not Understand Brightness
HM#4 Shadow of the Skies
HM#5 Good Morning, Mississippi

Kemarrion Galmore
Elayjah Earles
Richie Stover
Stephanie Hartmann
James Ballard
Jude Ryan
Elliot Scott
Lily Ross

There were an insufficient number of entries in Level 5 (College Undergraduates) to allow for judging.

The Mississippi Poetry Society would also like to congratulate the following student poets.

2026 Mississippi Poetry Out Loud Competition winners

1st Place

Elayjay Earles, senior at Mississippi School of the Arts

2nd Place

Atheena Bloodgood, senior at Pascagoula High School

3rd Place

Nita Hardin, junior representing the Union County Heritage Museum

<https://arts.ms.gov/programs/education-initiatives/poetry-out-loud/>

Locklyn Wilchynski

Mississippi School of the Arts and Brookhaven High School

winner of a Certificate of Merit in the Manningham Student Trust Poetry Contest, an annual competition for students in grades 6-12, sponsored by the National Federation of State Poetry Societies.

<https://nfsp.net/manningham-student-poetry-contest>

