



National Society of Arts and Letters ARIZONA CHAPTER

Supporting young talent in the performing, visual, and literary arts
nsalaz.org, 3104 E. Camelback Road #944, Phoenix, AZ 85016

2024-2025 NSAL AZ High School Poetry Competition

The Arizona Chapter of the National Society of Arts & Letters (NSAL AZ) and Poetry Chair, Madi Latham, announce the annual poetry competition conducted for high school age students across the state of Arizona.

Competition Terms: Competitors must be a high school freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior during the 2025-2026 school year and a resident of Arizona.

Poetry Submission Rules: There is no style, genre, or form requirement. Submissions may be no more than 3 poems and not more than 30 lines each. Submissions, questions, and/or concerns must be emailed to nsalazpoetrycompetition@gmail.com with the subject line "Poetry Competition."

Submissions may be sent via email to nsalazpoetrycompetition@gmail.com from **September 15, 2025**, through **December 15, 2025**. Winners will be announced by email on **March 1, 2026**.

Monetary Prizes: To encourage participation and creativity among emerging young writers, the top 6 poems chosen by our panel of judges will receive the following monetary prizes:

1st Prize: \$400

4th Prize: \$100

2nd Prize: \$300

5th Prize: \$50

3rd Prize: \$200

6th Prize: \$50

Non-Monetary Awards: The first and second place winners will read their winning poems at the 2026 Showcase Membership Brunch in May. Time and location of event to be determined.

Adjudication: Poems will be judged on originality, technical skill, and personal voice. Plagiarized submissions will be immediately disqualified. Three judges, all published and local Arizona poets, will select winners after review of entries which have had author names deleted. While your portfolio can include up to three poems, judges will choose individual poems for placement rather than entire portfolios.

Judges to be announced via website and social media.

Entry into the competition is free; each writer should only submit one portfolio.



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Portfolios should include 3 of your selected poems, not exceeding 30 lines per poem; and a cover page stating your name, date of submission, age, grade, high school, English teacher if applicable, city/state and contact information. A sample cover page can be found below. Portfolios that do not have a cover page will not be considered for placement. Portfolios should be in PDF or DOCX form, titled your last name, first name - Poetry Competition. (Example: Bow, Rain - Poetry Competition)

A portfolio without a cover page will NOT be considered for placement.

Sample Cover Page:

Name: Rain Bow

Date: 09/15/2026

Age: 15

Grade, High School, and Teacher: Sophomore at Corona del Sol High School, Ms. Love

City: Tempe, AZ

Contact Information: email, phone and address

All questions can be emailed to Poetry Chair Madi Latham via email (nsalazpoetrycompetition@gmail.com) with the subject line, "Poetry Competition Question."

All submissions can be emailed to Poetry Chair Madi Latham via email (nsalazpoetrycompetition@gmail.com) with the subject line, "Poetry Competition Submission."

National Society of Arts and Letters Arizona Chapter

Gail B. Fisher, President; Susan Silverman, Vice-President; Anne C. White, Secretary; Marilyn Cabay, Treasurer. Board members: Jeremy Aye, Michael J. Cook, Cathy Huan, Claudia Kennedy, and Dorothy Lincoln-Smith.