



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927 • Fairfax, VA 22035-5500
703-324-8700 • Fax: 703-324-3974 • www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks

Information Release

Judy Pedersen, PIO

September 2, 2015

E-mail: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov

PSA-115

Inquiries: 703-324-8662

Tell Us Why You Love Parks!

Park Authority Poetry Contest Focuses on Love for Parks

Poets have a very special way with words. Right now, the Fairfax County Park Authority is searching for young poets who love nature and parks and can put that passion into words. Celebrate both National Poetry Day in October and the Park Authority's 65th anniversary by entering this poetry contest sponsored by the Park Authority and the Fairfax County Park Foundation.

Tell us why you love parks in your finest prose. Here are the rules:

- Contestants must be Fairfax County Park lovers between 5 and 13 years of age.
- All submissions must be original, however help from parents or older siblings is encouraged. (All submissions become the property of the FCPA and may be republished)
- Only one poem may be entered by each contestant.
- Poems may not exceed 100 words.
- All submissions must be received September 25, 2015. Winners will be announced by October 3, 2015.
- Entries can be submitted electronically at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/65years/poetry.htm You may also send them via the post office to: FCPA, Poetry Contest, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927, Fairfax, VA 22035. Please include a completed entry form if submitted by mail.
- Entries may be handwritten or typed.
- Authors must provide name, address, phone and email and age.

A panel of judges from the Park Authority will select six winners based on originality, creativity, clarity, relevance to theme and spelling. Winners will be selected by age category with two winners in each category: 5 to 7, 8 to 10 and 11 to 13 years of age. Winners will receive a Certificate of Achievement as well as a \$50 gift card. Additionally, winners will be invited to read their poems publicly at Frying Pan Farm Park on Saturday, October 10, 2015 in front of the Cider Press building. This fall celebration begins at 10 a.m. Frying Pan Farm Park is located at 2739 West Ox Road in Herndon, VA.

For more information contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.

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If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354.