**ILLINOIS TESOL/BE**

**ELL Elementary Poetry Contest – 11th Anniversary**

**2014 to 2015**

**Attention all Primary and Intermediate ELL/Bilingual Education Teachers:**

This year, Illinois TESOL-BE is sponsoring its eleventh statewide Elementary Poetry Contest. This is a great opportunity for your students to let their creativity shine, communicate powerfully in the English language, and express the importance of their own culture/cultural experiences. We encourage you to have as many of your students as possible participate. **Sponsoring teachers do NOT need to be a member of ITBE.**

**Awards**

Winning applicants will receive:

* **Books** that the student picks **from Scholastic.com**. First place winners receive $30 towards books & the second place winners will receive $20 toward books. The books will be chosen by the students before the convention and he/she will receive them at the convention.
* **Best of the Best:** The first place winner in each poetry genre will compete against the other first place winners in his/her grade level for the Best of the Best award. The winner will receive pre-selected poetry books that are appropriate for each grade level (Second grade through Fifth grade).

Sponsoring teachers will receive:

* A **one-year complimentary membership** to Illinois TESOL-BE.
* A **$25 gift card** from an education store. Winning teachers will get a choice of places to choose from.

**Award Ceremony**

* New hotel location: Winning recipients will also be recognized at our Annual Convention on Friday, February 27, 2014 at the **Chicago Marriott Naperville**, 1801 N. Naper Blvd., Naperville, IL 60563.
* A group photo will be taken and winners will also have their names & entries published in the ITBE Link.

One essay cover sheet must accompany each entry. All poems must be postmarked or emailed by **Tuesday, January 6, 2015**. Please visit the Illinois TESOL-BE website ([www.itbe.org](http://www.itbe.org)) for more detailed guidelines, worksheets, and rubrics.

For additional information on the Illinois TESOL-BE Elementary Poetry Contest, please visit our website at www.itbe.org, or contact: Margaret Gigous

North School

150 W. Sunset

Villa Park, IL 60181

mgigous@d45.org

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Margaret Gigous

Illinois TESOL-BE Elementary SIG Chair

**ILLINOIS TESOL/BE**

**ELL Elementary Poetry Contest – 10th Anniversary**

**2014 - 2015**

**Information you need to know:**

**Eligibility:**

Contestant must be a student who is:

A full-time student enrolled in grades 2–5 in the state of Illinois.

A non-native speaker of English currently enrolled in a TBE/TPI program.

**The contest is open to all teachers that work in an Illinois school.**

**Form:**

Students are to write an original Acrostic, Bio, Diamante, Haiku, or “Open” poem. Font: Any style or size. The poem can be handwritten. It must fit on one 8½” x 11” piece of paper.

**Entries must be submitted with a complete cover sheet.** The cover sheet must include the student’s name, grade level, home language, type of poem, title of the poem, name of the sponsoring teacher, name of the school, school address, and school phone number. *(The only identifying information that may be allowed on the poem is the contestant’s FIRST name –if the student includes this as part of the poem title)*. **Entries may be submitted via mail or email to mgigous@d45.org by Tuesday, January 6, 2015.**

**Type of Poem:**

**Acrostic Poem**: Write one acrostic poem using one or 2 words as the title. The content of the poem must be about an aspect of the student’s culture or his/her perspective of American culture.

OR

**Bio Poem** – Students will write a poem using the prompts provided on the website.  
OR

**Diamante Poem**: Write one Diamante poem that compares an aspect of American culture to the student’s culture.

OR

**Haiku Poem**: Write one Haiku poem in which the content of the poem describes nature within the student’s first country or his or her perspective of nature in the United States.

OR

**Open Poem**: Write one poem in which the content of the poem discusses an aspect of the student’s culture or his / her perspective of American culture. The poem may NOT be an acrostic poem, a bio poem, a diamante poem, or a haiku poem.

**Conditions:** Failure to abide by any of these rules and conditions will result in the disqualification of the student’s poem from the competition.

* Each student may submit only one poem.
* The sponsoring teacher does NOT need to be a current member of Illinois TESOLBE.
* All poems become the property of Illinois TESOLBE.
* All poems must be original material of the author.
* The poem is based on prior knowledge or experiences.
* No teacher editing.
* Computer editing (grammar check) will not be allowed, except for spell check.
* Sponsoring teacher must be the teacher that works with the student in a TBE/TPI program.
* Teacher may submit 5 entries per poetry genre, per grade level.

**ILLINOIS TESOL/BE**

**ELL Elementary Student Poetry Contest**

**2014 - 2015**

**Judging:**

1. Each category of poetry will have an assessment rubric & scoring sheet the sponsoring teachers will use to pick their top 5 poems (per genre, per grade level) that will represent their class in the contest.(For example, Mrs. Gigous teaches 2nd & 3rd graders. She can submit 10 Acrostic poems (5 for 2nd grade & 5 poems for 3rd grade. Mrs. Gigous may also submit 10 Bio poems, 10 Diamante poems, 10 Haiku poems, & 10 open poems.)
2. Entries will be judged based on the criteria listed for each category. See the rubrics on the website for details (www.itbe.org).
3. Teachers will be asked to pick their top 5 entries (per genre, per grade level) for each category and then submit them to ITBE. Teachers do not need to submit the scoring sheet. This tool is available to help rank the students and select the top five of each poetry category.
4. One essay cover sheet must accompany each entry. Please be sure to write the title of the poem on the cover sheet. This will help to identify the poem and avoid confusion.
5. **Deadline:** All entries must be EMAILED or POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN **January 6, 2015. If you are mailing the entries:** Please paper clip each entry sheet on top of the appropriate poem and place in the envelope. You may send multiple entries in one envelope. Be sure to include the title of the poem on the cover sheet to help avoid confusion. *Please do not staple the documents.* **If you are emailing the entries***: Send as Word doc or PDF file. Save docs using the title of the poem & student’s first name.*
6. All sponsoring teachers will be notified of the results of the Illinois TESOL-BE Poetry Contest approximately 4 weeks before the convention.

**Mail Entries to:**

Illinois TESOL-BE ELL Poetry Contest

Margaret Gigous

North School, V.P.S.D # 45

150 W. Sunset

Villa Park, IL 60181

or mgigous@d45.org