

Department S2

ESSAYS & POEMS

2026 COMPETITION GUIDE

ENTRY DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 1

DROP OFF

All entries must be added online on FairEntry or mailed to the Fair Office.

PICK UP DAYS

Monday, October 12: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tuesday, October 13: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS OFFICE

Hours: Mon. - Fri., 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

brannock@carolinaclassicfair.com

336-727-2236



**[CLICK HERE TO ENTER
A COMPETITION!](#)**

FAQs & ENTRY INFORMATION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can I mail in my exhibit(s)? No, all essays and poems must be uploaded to Fair Entry when filling out the entry form.

Does the essay need to be written on a certain topic? Yes, all essays and poems must follow the theme. This year the theme is “Patriotic.”

Where will my exhibit(s) be displayed at the fair? Essays and Poems are displayed in the Event Center.

How do I pick up my exhibit(s) after the fair? All entries **MUST** be picked up on **Monday, October 12 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or Tuesday, October 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** No items will be removed before October 12. All items will be discarded after October 13. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

NEW CLASSES

No new classes in Department S2: Essays & Poems.

PREMIUMS AND AWARDS

- A ribbon is a badge of merit, and in no case should be attached to an article or animal where meritorious qualities are lacking.
- The following colors will be used to designate awards:
 - **Judge's Choice:** Red, White and Blue
 - **First Place:** Blue
 - **Second Place:** Red
 - **Third Place:** White
- If awarded, all ribbons must be picked up following the Fair (October 12-13).
- Premiums will be paid only from the judging results records and **NOT** from the ribbon or tags on exhibits.
- Errors or omissions in premium payments not reported to the Fair Administrative Office by December 31, 2026, will **NOT** be paid.



CATEGORIES: ESSAYS

THEME: 

JUDGING CRITERIA

- **Quality of Expression:** 35 pts
 - **Sincerity:** 25 pts
 - **Originality:** 25 pts
 - **Neatness:** 15 pts
- Total:** 100 points

SECTION 100

PREMIUMS: 1ST: \$12 | 2ND: \$10 | 3RD: \$8

001. Grades 1-2

002. Grades 3-4



JUDGE'S CHOICE: \$10 & ROSETTE

(Selected from 1st place winners of categories below)

PREMIUMS: 1ST: \$18 | 2ND: \$16 | 3RD: \$12

003. Grades 5-6

004. Grades 7-8

005. Grades 9-12



JUDGE'S CHOICE: \$10 & ROSETTE

(Selected from 1st place winners of categories below)

PREMIUMS: 1ST: \$22 | 2ND: \$20 | 3RD: \$18

006. Adults 19 and older

007. Seniors 55 and older



JUDGE'S CHOICE: \$10 & ROSETTE

(Selected from 1st place winners of categories below)

CATEGORIES: POEMS

THEME:  **PATRIOTIC**

JUDGING CRITERIA

- **Creativity:** 50 pts
 - **Narrative/Rhyme:** 30 pts
 - **Neatness:** 20 pts
- Total:** 100 points

SECTION 101

PREMIUMS: 1ST: \$12 | 2ND: \$10 | 3RD: \$8

008. Grades 1-2

009. Grades 3-4



JUDGE'S CHOICE: \$10 & ROSETTE

(Selected from 1st place winners of categories below)

PREMIUMS: 1ST: \$18 | 2ND: \$16 | 3RD: \$12

010. Grades 5-6

011. Grades 7-8

012. Grades 9-12



JUDGE'S CHOICE: \$10 & ROSETTE

(Selected from 1st place winners of categories below)

PREMIUMS: 1ST: \$22 | 2ND: \$20 | 3RD: \$18

013. Adults 19 and older

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JUDGE'S CHOICE: \$10 & ROSETTE

(Selected from 1st place winners of categories below)