

## ISPS 2023 Student Contest Results

Many thanks to our Judges, ISPS members: Ida Koytuk, Tom Moran, Beth Staas and Barbara Eaton! We received 226 poems from 202 students.

This year, we restructured the contest to resemble the adult contest offering our students more categories to enter. Also new are cash prizes and a published anthology of the winning poems. Our first edition of *Fresh Ink: 2023 Anthology of Prize Poems by Illinois Students* is now available on Amazon.

### Senior Division Winners:

Contest #1 – President’s Challenge Award Form: Any Subject: Peace

First Place: Sreehitha Nara, Barrington High School, Barrington – Robert M. Baker, teacher  
Second Place: Espen Hammes, Newman Central Catholic HS, Sterling – Donna Spencer, teacher  
Third Place: Ian Smiddy, Riverdale High School, Port Byron – Lacey Dean, teacher  
HM #1: Delany Jokisch, A-C Central High School, Ashland – Liz Sinclair, teacher  
HM #2: William Boston, A-C Central High School, Ashland – Liz Sinclair, teacher  
HM #3: Carson Arthalony, A-C Central High School, Ashland – Liz Sinclair, teacher

Contest #2 – Lake Michigan Award Form: Any Subject: Water

First Place: Gianna Sagel, Newman Central Catholic HS, Sterling – Donna Spencer, teacher  
Second Place: Jayce Privia, A-C Central High School, Ashland – Liz Sinclair, teacher  
Third Place: Jack Van Gorkom, Wesclin High School, Trenton – Dr. Jessica Pilgreen, teacher  
HM #1: Sarah Allgaier, Oswego East High School, Oswego – Tim Ochoa, teacher  
HM #2: Max Keehma, Oswego East High School, Oswego – Tim Ochoa, teacher  
HM #3: Sam R Neisewander, Newman Central Catholic HS – Donna Spencer

Contest #3 – Robert Frost Award Form: Rhyming Subject: Any

First Place: Sarah D. Murray, Newman Central Catholic HS, Sterling – Donna Spencer, teacher  
Second Place: Stella Abarca, Plainfield east High School, Plainfield – Elizabeth Venezio, teacher  
Third Place: Monica Healy, Newman Central Catholic HS, Sterling – Donna Spencer  
HM#1: Abigail Peters-Eacho, Wesclin High School, Trenton – Dr. Jessica Pilgreen  
HM #2: Alaina Marr, A-C Central High School, Ashland – Liz Sinclair, teacher  
HM #3: Andrea Brandner, St. Bede’s Academy, Peru – Andrea Horst, teacher

### Junior Division Winners:

Contest #4 – Vice President’s Challenge Award Form: Any Subject: Family

First Place: Vania Chavez, Fred Rogers Magnet Academy, Aurora – Laura Krueger, teacher  
Second Place: Marissa Carsten, Pleasantdale Middle School, Burr Ridge – Nancy Deaton, teacher  
Third Place: Ella Nielsen, Pleasantdale Middle School, Burr Ridge – Nancy Deaton, teacher  
HM #1: Abigail Flinn, The Field School, Chicago – Jack Franicevich, teacher  
HM #2: Adyson Choate, Shawnee Junior High School, Wolf Lake – Rachel Griffin, teacher

Contest #5: Mississippi River Award Form: Any Subject: Water

First Place: Josephine Hillegass, Martino Junior High School, New Lenox – Amy Styx  
Second Place: Abigail Flinn, Shawnee Junior High School, Wolf Lake – Rachel Griffin  
Third Place: Rehan Mathew Koshy, Edison Regional Gifted Center, Chicago – Angela Richardson  
HM #1: Brody Maeser, Shawnee Junior High School, Wolf Lake – Rachel Griffin  
HM #2: Eliza Ford, Shawnee Junior High School, Wolf Lake – Rachel Griffin

Contest #6: Land of Lincoln Award Form: Any Subject: Abraham Lincoln

First Place: Sereniti Mefford, Shawnee Junior High School, Wolf Lake – Rachel Griffin

Second Place: Eliza Ford, Shawnee Junior High School, Wolf Lake – Rachel Griffin

Third Place: Madalyn Shuster: Shawnee Junior High School, Wolf Lake – Rachel Griffin