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**NEWS
RELEASE**

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Public Libraries Now Accepting Entries for Youth Art and Poetry Contest

Contest Open to Students in Grades 3 through 12

EL PASO, Texas — The El Paso Public Libraries (EPPL) is inviting young creators across the region to pick up a pen, paintbrush, or pencil and let their voices shine. The EPPL is proud to announce the return of its annual Youth Art and Poetry Contest, open to students in grades 3 through 12, and welcoming original poetry and artwork in both English and Spanish.

The contest celebrates imagination, literacy, and self-expression, offering students a unique opportunity to showcase their talents and be recognized for their creative achievements. Entries are judged by grade level and language, with categories available in both English and Spanish, ensuring every student has a chance to be heard. El Paso Public Libraries encourages students, families, and educators to participate and help inspire the next generation of writers and artists.

“This contest is one of our favorite ways to celebrate the incredible talent and creativity of El Paso’s youth,” said El Paso Public Libraries Director Norma Martinez. “Through poetry and art, students share their unique perspectives and stories. We’re honored to provide a platform that builds confidence, encourages creativity, and fosters a lifelong love of learning.”

Poetry Contest

Poems will be judged on originality, creativity, clarity, and spelling. Entries will be evaluated by grade level and language, with three winners selected in each category. Grade divisions include Grades 3–5, Grades 6–8, and Grades 9–12.

Art Contest

Student artwork submissions will be evaluated based on creativity and originality, with select pieces chosen as cover art designs.

All contest winners will be invited to a special awards ceremony in April, where students will have the opportunity to read their poems aloud and/or discuss their artwork with the audience. Winning poems and artwork will also be featured in the official digital anthology, celebrating the creative voices of El Paso’s youth.

The deadline to submit entries for the Youth Art and Poetry Contest is March 28.

Official rules and entry forms are available at www.ElPasoLibrary.org or at any El Paso Public Library location. Entries may be submitted in person at any library branch or online at: <https://elpasotx.forms.govos.com/ng/fa/youthPoetry>

For more information on the Youth Poetry Contest or other programs and services provided by the El Paso Public Libraries, visit www.ElPasoLibrary.org.

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Promoting **Transparent & Consistent Communication**
Among All Members of the Community

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