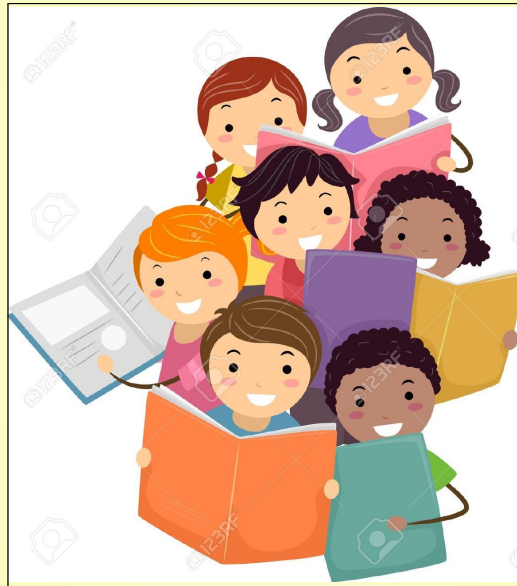


42nd ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST

Award Ceremony

June 5, 2017



Children's Services Division
SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY

267 Grand Street, Waterbury, CT 06702

www.bronsonlibrary.org

**SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY
42ND ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST
AWARD CEREMONY
JUNE 5, 2017**

Library Director: Raechel Guest

CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIVISION

Clivel Charlton, Head, Children's Services
Margaret Keating, Poetry Contest Coordinator
Juleigh Paradise
Christine Ruocco
Mary Jo Cote

JUDGES

Bilal Tajildeen

Bilal is currently pursuing his M.A. in English at CCSU where he studies literary theory and LGBT literature. He has recently started a new position at the CT Community Foundation as the Youth Program Coordinator. He enjoys membership with Evening Star Lodge #101, A.F. & A. M.

Angela R. Holmes

She has lived in Waterbury all her life. Angela has two beautiful daughters. She is an active member of the Community Tabernacle Outreach Center in Waterbury under the leadership of Rev. W. James Johnson. Angela began working for Waterbury Hospital in the Community Outreach and Grants Department. Her current position is the Community Outreach Coordinator and Waterbury Hospital Summer Bridge Director. She is also currently working on her Doctorate Degree from the University of Phoenix in Curriculum and Instructional and Leadership.

***All poems appear as they were received.**

Financial Support for the Poetry Contest and Award Ceremony has been provided by

The Friends of the Silas Bronson Library



Special Guest Musicians at the Award Ceremony:

Bravo Waterbury!

Bravo Waterbury!(Bravo) was started in 2012, and is an education initiative of The Waterbury Symphony Orchestra. Bravo focuses on social justice, character building, and executive functioning skills through learning music. Bravo participants are primarily children living in and around the inner city with limited resources or access to quality music education.

Bravo was born of a deeply inspired institutional vision to work with Waterbury's most underserved children and their families in a profound and lasting way. There is a critical need for social change in Waterbury's most forgotten neighborhoods. Bravo's year-round structure addresses these challenges.

Bravo provides musical instruction and academic assistance after school 3.25 hours per day, five days per week, at Waterbury's Children's Community School (CCS). Approximately 70 Waterbury students from CCS, St. Mary's, St. Peter and Paul School, Wallace Middle School, and West Side Middle School in grades K through 8 participate in this program. The program runs from July through June. Students participate in Bucket Band (a fundamental rhythm ensemble), Dance, Choir, Group Instrumental Lessons, Instrument Exploration, Jazz Band, Wind Ensemble, String Orchestra, and Symphony Orchestra. Students receive a nutritious snack everyday as well as time for outdoor physical activity, frequent performance opportunities, and recreational field trips.



Bravo Waterbury!
Playing Music, Building Futures



**WATERBURY
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

LEIF BJALAND, MUSIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR
THE JANE HARRNESS SENDZIMIR MUSIC DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY

42ND ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST

THEMES by GRADE

1st My Favorite Animal

2nd It's Spring!

3rd Dinosaurs

4th Scary Things

5th My Favorite Invention

6th Finding Treasure

7th If I Were a Superhero

8th If I Could Change the World

SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY

42ND ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST

FIRST PRIZE WINNERS

Grade

1 Gabriella Alicia Veliz

2 Emma Iasevoli

3 Malachi Gordon

4 Brian Torres

5 Lyana Mendez

6 Avery Dias

7 Tzvi Bernstein

8 Luna A. Gonzalez

My favorite animal

Once I was at the zoo.

I was yelling BOO!

I did not like the zoo.

The best animal there was,
was the one in the grass,
it was the baby giraffe.

It was eating the grass,
while looking at a bass.

That was my favorite animal at this zoo.
I no longer said boo.

*Gabriella Alicia Veliz
Carrington School Grade 1*

Spring Flowers

It's spring.

It's going to shower today.

I should go grow my flowers.

I would grow powers with my flowers.

I went to have fun in the sun.

When my mom called me she said your flowers are growing.

I looked at my flowers

and they gave me powers

to make more flowers.

Emma Iasevoli

Sts. Peter & Paul School Grade 2

What happened in the Dinosaur Age?

Did all the dinos fight wrong?
Or fight right?
Did they invent?
What was there intent?
Did they look?
Or did they cook?
Were they Jamaican?
Or were they mistaken?
Did they do math?
Or take a bath?
Were they skinny? Or were they mini?
Do they have good sight? They might!
Do they snore on their door?
Were they shy?
How did all of them die?
I don't know why?
Was it their lack of good mood?
Or was it the lack of food?
I don't know why but
Maybe they're shy? Or is it all a lie?

Malachi Gordon
Children's Community School Grade 3

The Black Hole

The black hole feels windy.

Sounds like windy and crazy dark and scary.

Going in circles brings me everywhere.

I feel like I am in the air.

Feels very cool.

I go down feels very warm.

Looks like a tornado.

The tornado is making swish woosh sounds,
calm and happy and peaceful and scary and beautiful.

Brian Torres

Children's Community School Grade 4

My Favorite Invention

I love basketball.

The action, the fun, I love it all.

If you play it's awesome to do.

But if you're a bad player you'll stick to the bench like glue.

My favorite player is Stephen Curry.

He's so cool like a flurry.

I admit it is really hard, but it is also more fun than a game of cards.

I like Isaiah Thomas his arms are the longest.

I like Golden State I wonder what is state of Nate.

There are a lot of NBA teams Bulls, The Suns and Miami Heat.

James Naismith invented it all the hoop, the court, even the ball.

If you're good enough you could be drafted even maybe even rafted.

Like they say, if you're small heart over height even if you're not very tall.

That was my poem about my favorite invention

oh and I forgot to mention my favorite invention is basketball well that's all.

Lyana Mendez

St's Peter and Paul School Grade 5

I want you more than I need you

Why did you leave?

When will you come back?

I don't know where you are

Or what you're doing

I hope you're safe

I hope you come home soon

I fold paper

Laying on my bed

Hoping you open the door on the count of three

1...2...3...

The door doesn't open.

I walk downstairs staring at the door

Wishing the door to open

And you standing in front of me

But it doesn't.

I turn the corner to the kitchen

And there YOU are

In all

Your army clothes

*Avery Dias
Carrington School Grade 6*

If I Had A Superpower

If I would have a superpower that I would need

I wouldn't use it to hurt, scare or impede

My superpower would be

To have the key

Into everyone's thinking ability

I would make the world a better place

There wouldn't be any terrorists to chase

Every country could eliminate their border

There wouldn't be a need for law and order

The world would be our peaceful home

No more wars in Japan, Vietnam or Rome

Tzvi Bernstein

Yeshiva K'tana of Waterbury Grade 7

If I Could Change the World

Today I am going to change the world.
And I am going to try with all my might.
Not because I could,
but because I should.
If only I could change the world.
No hunger would ever roam the Earth.
No home would go unlived.
We could all see eye to eye with each other.
People could finally accept the difference we have,
and would never see them as strange,
bizarre,
different,
gross,
because now they realize we are not different at all.
We are just people,
and that is forever what we will stay.
But only if I could change the world.
One mere person over billions.
Over hate,
torture,
racism.
It is horrible that I could name more.
Because I,
one tiny human being,
cannot do it myself.
This could be a reality.
If only **WE** could change the world.

Luna A. Gonzalez
Sts. Peter and Paul School Grade 8

SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY

42ND ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST

HONORABLE MENTION

Grade

- 1 Fiona Riley**
- 2 Naomi Antonios**
- 3 Ardi Beshi**
- 4 Xavier Williams**
- 5 Rami Nonez**
- 6 Genesis Nashaly Irizarry**
- 7 Azannah Levett**
- 8 Florymar Qjinones**

Cats

Cats are good
Cats can stand on wall
and play ball
and they can play at the mall
and that's all.

Fiona Riley

St. Mary School Grade 1

It's Spring

It's Spring and the sunshine is near,
and the sky is very clear.
We go to the park to see Blue Jay's
While we walk into the Sun Ray's.
One day we hear splish splash of the rain.
On the window pane.
The flowers bloom in the early morning light.
Making everything bright.
We see bunnies on the side of the road.
While they bring a load of carrots.
That's all for my spring poem.
Just remember read it when you get home.

Naomi Antonios
Tinker School Grade 2

Dinosaurs

Many dinosaurs have big teeth and jaws.

And some even have claws.

Other dinosaurs have spikes on their tails.

And some are even bigger than whales.

Some are big and some are small.

But the T-Rex is the biggest, toughest of them all!

Ardi Beshi

Sts. Peter & Paul School Grade 3

CLOWNS IN THE CLOUDS

Clouds going round and round
Clowns everywhere but I don't even care.
My cat ate my rat but I don't care.
We are saying the pledge at school and justice for all.
But a silly silly clown is skipping down the hall.
The sky is black but I won't go back.
I won't go down,
Now I see a clown.
He has a chainsaw
And he is eating meat that is really really raw.
I saw a bear I closed my ear now I'm out of hear.
I'm sorry but,
they broke my head like a coconut.

Xavier Williams
Children's Community School Grade 4

The Rocket

The rocket is as beautiful as they come,
And takes a long time to be done.
They are big and huge and use a lot of power,
But sometimes they are built for hours.
Our job is to build rockets to take us to a place,
But there are a lot of problems in space.
This is my favorite invention because it can bring us to space.
I love space and I think Robert Goddard would think so too.
Rockets are just like towers— big and tall and pointy at the top.
Rockets are so fascinating they make me feel like I could fly.
I want to go to space one day,
But now I have to worry about today.

*Rami Nonez
St's. Peter and Paul School Grade 5*

My Best Friend

3 years ago in school I found a girl
Sitting alone playing with her necklace pearl.
I went over to see if she wanted to hang out,
She turned around, smiled, but still had a little pout.
I went over, asked her what's wrong
She didn't answer...it took her so long
She said she has no friends
I told her I will be her friend no matter what
Till the world ends
Right now this is my treasure
I will always treasure this friendship
Forever and ever

*Genesis Nashaly Irizarry
Carrington School Grade 6*

If I Were a Superhero

If I were a Superhero
I would have the power to fly
To see all the beautiful things around me

If I was a Superhero
I would bring world peace
To bring happiness to others

If I was a superhero
I'll help all the poor
To give them a life as good as mine

If I was a Superhero
The world will be better with me

Azannah Levett
Waterbury Arts Magnet School Grade 7

If I Could Change The World

If I could change the world, what would I do?

I could change the water from polluted to blue.

I would revive the Great Barrier Reef,

I should even limit the cutting down of trees.

Natural disasters would exist no more,

I would even lower taxes in mostly all stores.

Not one country would have budget problems,

If even the possibility arises, I would then solve them.

Global Warming wouldn't even be a word, I could end all war, and destroy all swords.

All cars would run on electric, not gas,

Because the air is turning bad, and we need to act fast.

Every girl, and every boy would receive an education,

We as people would stand together like a nation.

I would make every terrorism group extinct,

I could arrest all criminals as fast as a blink.

I would even make the small things count,

Like donate money to shelters in very big amounts.

But alas, there are a bunch of coulds,

A big amount of woulds,

And a lot of shoulds, way too many to count,

Only IF I could change the world, it would be perfectly round

Florymar Qjunones
St's. Peter and Paul School Grade 8

JOIN THE FRIENDS OF THE SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY

The Friends contribute a variety of materials, equipment and services not financed in the annual city budget. They also provide support for Library programs and activities involving the community. New members are welcome to join the Friends of the Library and share their talents and experience for improved total library service. The Friends of the Library meet the second Tuesday of even numbered months at the Silas Bronson Library.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

Town, State, Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Are you interested in volunteer work? YES NO

Membership fees

Individual	\$25
Senior/Student	\$15
Patron	\$50
Organization	\$50
Business/Corporate	\$100
Other Contribution	\$ _____

VISIT [WWW.BRONSONLIBRARY.ORG/
FRIENDS](http://WWW.BRONSONLIBRARY.ORG/FRIENDS) FOR MORE INFORMATION

Mail this form plus check to:

The Friends of the Silas Bronson Library

P.O. Box 2853

Waterbury, CT 06723

GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

You can help the Library. Gifts in any amount are always welcome.

Memorial gifts for departed relatives or friends are a special way to honor their memory. A bequest in your will is also a very special way to remember the Library and the entire community. Donors' wishes for handling gifts and bequests are carefully followed. Gifts and bequests are tax deductible.

SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY

2017 Summer Reading Club

BUILD A BETTER WORLD

Registration starts Thursday, June 1 and ends Friday, August 11.
The last day to submit your completed reading log is Friday, August 18.



Registration forms are available at the main library and the Bunker Hill Branch;
online registration is available at www.bronsonlibrary.org/kids.

All children from birth to 8th grade are welcome to join the reading fun!
Children who are not yet readers can still participate if someone reads to them.

All children will receive incentives upon registration and will be eligible
for raffle prizes as they progress in their reading.

SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY CHILDREN'S DIVISION