

Feast of Words K-12 Student Poetry Contest Submission Rules

**Theme**: "What Food Means To Me" or “Love Letter to Food”

**Choose Your Format:**

* Haiku - 3 lines with a syllable count of 5-7-5
* Zip Ode - 5 lines Each number of your zip code determines the number of words in that line.

**Eligibility:** The contest is open to all Miami-Dade and Broward County K-12 students.

**Deadline:** The deadline for submission is **Thursday, February 15, 2024**. **Submissions**: Entries are submitted through the form <https://forms.gle/MmoYgwYeDdqf7BMFA> . Entries may either be typed in or uploaded as a word or PDF document. Teachers submitting several entries from a class should email: elaine@foodconservationalliance.com to arrange for class submissions prior to deadline.

**Rules**: Poems must be the work of an individual–not a group or collaboration. Poems must be the work of a human being in their entirety–poems written by an A.I. (or written by an A.I. and edited by a human) will be disqualified.

**Judging Criteria**: Entries will be judged based on creativity, originality, adherence to the theme, and overall poetic expression.

**Prizes**: Winners will be announced during Food Waste Prevention Week April 1-7, 2024. Prizes will be awarded for the top three entries in each category.

K-5, 6-8 and 9-12. 1st $300 2nd $200 3rd $100

**Publication:** Winning entries may be featured on the Food Waste Prevention Week website, social media platforms and other communications.

**Note:** By submitting an entry, participants and their legal guardians consent to the potential publication of their work and acknowledgment of the student's name and school in association with the contest

Rubric

| Creativity (30 points) | Originality (10 points): Uniqueness of perspective within the haiku format.  Imagery (10 points): Effectiveness in creating vivid mental images.  Economy of Words (10 points): Conciseness in conveying a complete thought. |
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| Adherence to Theme (30 points) | Relevance (15 points): Alignment with the theme "What Food Means To Me” / “Love Letter to Food”  Depth of Exploration (15 points): Extent to which personal connections and emotions related to the theme are explored. |
| Haiku / Zip Ode Form (20 points) | Structure (10 points): Adherence to the traditional 5-7-5 syllable pattern (Haiku) number of words per line in accordance with the zip code ( [Zip Ode](https://omiami.org/pages/zip-odes))  Language and Expression (10 points) |
| Clarity (5 points) | Clear and concise language |
| Evocativeness (5 points) | Ability to evoke emotions or provoke thought. |
| Impact (10 points) | Lasting effect and resonance on the reader. |
| 100 Points Total |  |

**Haiku Tips**

* Brainstorm Words and Images:
  + Jot down words or images related to your chosen theme. These can be nouns, verbs, or adjectives that capture the essence of the moment.
* Craft the First Line (5 syllables):
  + Create the first line with five syllables. This line should introduce the theme or set the scene.
* Build the Second Line (7 syllables):
  + The second line should have seven syllables and provide a bit more information or deepen the imagery.
* Complete the Third Line (5 syllables):
  + Finish with the third line, containing five syllables. This line often offers a resolution, surprise, or a contrasting element.
* Check Syllable Count:
  + Review each line to ensure it adheres to the 5-7-5 syllable structure.
* Refine and Revise:
  + Haikus thrive on simplicity. Aim for clarity and vivid imagery. Eliminate unnecessary words to create a concise and powerful poem.
* Consider Punctuation:
  + Haikus traditionally don't use punctuation. However, modern haikus may incorporate it for emphasis or to guide the reader.
* Read Aloud:
* Once you've crafted your haiku, read it aloud. This helps to identify any awkward phrasing or syllable count issues.

**How to Write a Zip Ode**

Write the numbers of your zip code down the left-hand side of the page. Each number determines the number of words in that line.

Note: If you have a zero in your zip code, that is a wild card! You can leave it blank, inert an emoji or symbol, or use any number of words between 1 and 9.