HOALTC Event: Christian Poetry

Purpose	• Develop and use the ability to express spiritual feelings and thoughts in poetry and verse. The rhythm, meter, word and form constructions of poetry may touch hearts and souls in a way that prose does not.
Expectations	• Coaches and participants should familiarize themselves with the expectations in the event rubric prior to beginning the project. If any participant needs special consideration, please see page 8 and complete the form by the registration deadline. See also pages 9-11 and page 18. • Students are registered by age divisions for judging purposes: grades 3 - 6; 7 - 9; or 10 -12. Each participant is allowed only one entry in this event. • Each participant will write a poem reflecting this year's theme. • The poem may be written in any type of rhythm or meter. It does not have to rhyme; if rhyme is used it may be any rhyming scheme. The poem may be any form of or type of poetry but must adhere to that poetic form.
Rules	• The poem may be any type of poem and **will be judged on following that poetic form**. This includes meter, rhythm, length, rhyming scheme, etc. The type of poem must be identified on the cover sheet (see below). There are many poetic forms or types, e.g., haiku, limerick, cinquain, acrostic, shape poem, lyric, ode, free verse, etc. • The poem should have a title. • The poem should be typewritten and should not exceed one 8.5" X 11" page. Participants in grade level 3-6 may submit handwritten work if it is neat and orderly. • The poem will be evaluated on adherence to page format and submission instructions, as well as readability, spirituality, and the use of the English language, including grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

Submission Instructions	• Entries should be submitted by the Church Coordinator or coach on or before the pre-convention event deadline: either by mail to the Event Coordinator, or uploaded to the HOALTC Dropbox.
	
	• By mail, submit 2 complete copies of the entry, including a cover sheet for each copy. See the EC page at hoaltc.org.
	
	• The cover sheet should include the following information:
	
	    o Category (Christian Poetry)
	    o Name
	    o Grade
	    o Congregation Name
	    o Congregation City, State
	    o Congregation Number
	    o Title of Poem
	    o Poetic Form or Type
	
	By Dropbox, upload the entry and the cover sheet in pdf format to the HOALTC Dropbox. The link to the drop box for each church is provided by September for the following convention year. Please contact dropbox@hoaltc.org with Dropbox related questions.

Christian Poetry **2019 | HOALTC** **No Greater Love! | Gospel of John**		
	Event Coordinator's award: Gold Silver Bronze	
	Exemplary	**Competent**	**Developing**

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Theme	☐ Theme is reflected and supported very well in the poem.	☐ Theme is present in the poem.	☐ Attention is needed to the reflection of the theme in the poem.
Form	☐ Creatively uses an appropriate poetic form. ☐ Adheres well to the definition and requirements of the No Greater Love poetic form.	☐ Good use of appropriate poetic form. ☐ Adheres mostly to the definition and requirements of the chosen poetic form.	☐ Attention needed to appropriate use of poetic form. ☐ Attention needed to the definition and requirements of the chosen poetic form.
Poetic Techniques	☐ Very effective in using poetic techniques to reinforce message.	☐ Effective in using poetic techniques to reinforce message.	☐ Attention needed to enhance poetic technique in reinforcing message.
Readability	☐ Poem is very engaging and very enjoyable to read. ☐ Poem presents a clear and complete picture in the reader's mind.	☐ Poem is engaging and enjoyable to read. ☐ Poem presents a picture in the reader's mind.	☐ Attention is needed to make poem more engaging and enjoyable. ☐ Attention is needed to enhance poem's purpose or vision.
Writing Substance	☐ Excellent use of grammar. ☐ No spelling errors. ☐ Organization of thoughts is strong and evident.	☐ Minimal grammar errors. ☐ Minimal spelling errors ☐ Organization of thoughts is evident.	☐ Attention needed to grammar errors. ☐ Attention needed to spelling errors. ☐ Attention needed with organization of thoughts.
Format Requirements	☐ Proper length and page format according to the rules. (Consider age level.)	☐ Poem length and page format mostly proper per rules, considering age level if needed.	☐ Poem length and/or page format requires attention to the rules.
Spirituality	☐ This poem is definitely spiritually encouraging and / or thought provoking.	☐ This poem is spiritually encouraging and / or thought provoking.	☐ Attention is needed to make the poem more spiritually encouraging and /or thought provoking.

Judge's comments:

Please help us improve this rubric each year by submitting Feedback on the website within 30 days of the end of the convention.