

The Fallon County Library and the O'Fallon Historical Museum Present:



2025 Fallon County Poetry Contest



OFFICIAL RULES

The 2025 Fallon County Poetry Contest seeks creative writers, in three separate age divisions, to submit a short poem that represents and celebrates Fallon County. Topics can include, but are not limited to, historical landmarks, people and events, geographical features, industry, community, and seasonal change. One entry per contestant. Entries must be original and have been created in 2025. Upon submission, the author grants all collaborating organizations the right to publish the submitted work for the purposes of promoting the contest and/or the Fallon County Library or O'Fallon Historical Museum.

Youth Division: Ages 8 and under

Teen Division: Ages 9 to 17

Adult Division: Ages 18 and up

THEME IDEAS

“Where I’m From” – Local Stories & Heritage

Explore Fallon County's past, family stories, community traditions, or growing up in eastern Montana.

“Seasons of Our Lives” – Past, Present, Future

Poems that reflect on change over time—personal growth, town changes, or broader historical shifts.

“Echoes from the Attic” – Inspired by Museum Artifacts

Choose an object or photo from the museum or library's collection and write a poem inspired by it.

“Voices of the Prairie” – Nature & Place-Based Poetry

Poems about the land, weather, wildlife, and open spaces of Montana. Could tie into exhibits or books about agriculture, homesteading, or natural history.

“If These Walls Could Talk” – Historical Imagination

Poetry from the perspective of a person or place in Fallon County history: a homesteader, a railroad worker, a one-room schoolhouse, etc.

POEM PARAMETERS:

📌 Poem must be original

📌 Entry can be written in any poetic style (free verse, rhymed, haiku, sonnet, etc)

📌 Must represent & celebrate Fallon County or Southeast Montana

📌 One poem per person

📌 Enter in either Youth, Teen or Adult

📌 Contest entry must be at least 3 lines but cannot exceed 30 (or 300 words if prose)

WHO CAN ENTER:

This contest is open to anyone who is a full-time or part-time resident of Fallon County.

HOW TO ENTER:

Complete and email the Official Entry Form along with your poem to museum@falloncountymt.gov, or hand deliver entries to the Museum or the Library.

JUDGING:

Eligible poems will be judged by popular vote via social media starting on Monday, April 21 at 10:00 a.m., ending on Monday, April 28, 2025 at 4:00 p.m..

A panel of judges will meet that same week to determine additional winners.

DEADLINE:

Monday, April 21, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

AWARDS:

Winning entries for Youth, Teen & Adult categories will be announced on Thursday, May 1 on Facebook. Winners in each category, and People's Choice, will receive a gift package courtesy of the sponsors.

The Fallon County Poetry Contest has the right to disqualify any entry