

Chemeketa Community College Diversity Poetry Contest!!!

Purpose for Poetry Contest

The intention of this contest is to provide an opportunity for students to define diversity as seen through their own perspective. At times it might feel that the definition of diversity is limited to cultural and racial diversity, but while these two areas are a great and valuable part of the overall representation of diversity, they do not represent a greater view of diversity.

Many definitions of diversity describe it as the enrichment of life and knowledge through the sharing of individual experiences, ideas, and perspectives. We all have the privilege of viewing the world around us in distinctive ways, we are all unique, and thus we are all able to contribute important elements to this idea of diversity. We all have traveled different journeys to get to where we are today and it was the experience of that journey that makes us who we are; our journey is what makes us diverse.

This poetry contest is your opportunity to share these unique experiences with the rest of the student body. This is your opportunity to allow other students to feel how you feel, to experience what you have experienced, and for a brief period of time allow others to view the world through your eyes.

Poem Requirements

The poems can have any form of poetic structure. There are no stanza or line requirements for a poem. The only requirement is that the focus of your poem should be the expression of diversity as seen through your eyes or as experienced in your life. However long you feel a poem has to be to completely express that idea is completely up to you.

**All poems must be submitted by Friday, February 25th.*

Poem Submission Process

Poems can be submitted via e-mail at asc@chemeketa.edu or a hard copy may be submitted at the Office of Student Retention and College Life, located in Bldg. 2, Room 176, down the hall from the convenience store. **Please be sure to include name and contact information with your submission, and indicate preferred contact method (e-mail and/or phone number).** Your contact information will be used to confirm attendance to our poetry social.

Poetry contest winner

On Thursday March 3rd we will host a poetry reading in the Multicultural Center, located in Bldg 2 next to the office of Student Retention and College Life. The event will run from 12:30-2:30. During this social each student will get a chance to read their poem to an open student audience who will then decide the overall contest winner by popular vote. Prizes will be 25, 15, and 10 dollar bookstore gift certificates for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places consecutively.

We sincerely hope that the poetry contest serves as an excellent tool for each student to celebrate their own uniqueness.

For any additional questions please e-mail: Leonardo Reyes at lreyes30@my.chemeketa.edu