"Acadiana, The Heart of Cajun Country"
Arts Festival
Thursday, March 15, 2018
Poetry Contest
6th-12th grade

Lyric Poetry: *Expresses poet's thoughts and feelings* Does not tell a story but creates a mood through vivid images and descriptive words *May be made up of regular stanzas or they may have uneven stanzas *Lyric poems use images and pictures from nature *A lyric poem is a poem that speaks of personal or emotional feelings, traditionally in the present tense, and with a song-like quality. Lyric poetry can have a rhyming scheme; however, they can be free verse.

Guidelines for the Contest:
Deadline: Friday, February 23, 2018
Font: Times New Roman
Title: Required
Poetry Form: A 6 to 8 line lyric poem (must include a Cajun simile, metaphor, alliteration, OR the historical theme referring to the 1700's deportation of the Acadian people from the French Canadian town of Acadie "Nova Scotia" to Louisiana)

Excerpt from Longfellow's 1847 epic poem
"Evangeline"

"Lovely the moonlight was as it glanced and gleamed on the water,
Gleamed on the columns of cypress and cedar sustaining the arches,
Down through whose broken vaults it fell as through chinks in a ruin.
Dreamlike, and indistinct, and strange were all things around them;
And o'er their spirits there came a feeling of wonder and sadness—
Strange forebodings of ill, unseen and that cannot be compassed."

Content: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, author of the famous Acadian poem, "Evangeline,' is known for his lyrical poetry. In "Evangeline" there is much use of rich similes, metaphors, and mesmerizing, dreamlike descriptions of the valleys of Acadia, the bayous of Louisiana, and the sheer precipices of the West which give the poem a great deal of power.

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Grade
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Awards: First, Second, and Third Place Awards for the following grade levels 6,7,8,9,10,11,and 12 presented at the Acadiana Arts Festival on Thursday, March 15. Finalists announced at the beginning of the school day.