

# **“The Wild Wild West”**

## **Celebrating America’s Old Western Culture**

### **Arts Festival**

**Thursday, March 14, 2019**  
**Poetry Contest Grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**



**Lyric Poetry with a Rhyme Scheme:** 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 22, 2019**

**Font: Times New Roman**

**Title: Required**

**Bottom of page: Name, Grade, Teacher**

**Poetry Form:** A 6 to 8 line lyric poem that contains rhyme and rhythm. (Must include an Old Western simile, metaphor, alliteration, OR the historical theme referring to cattle songs and cowboy poetry which tell of a "free" life entwined in nature and work. Modern cowboy poetry shows that the traditions of life on the Wild West range and the spirit of the old west are still very much alive from American history.

#### ***Excerpt from “The Cowboy’s Life”***

The winds may blow  
And the thunder growl  
Or the breeze may safely moan;  
A cowboy's life  
Is a royal life,  
His saddle his kingly throne.  
Saddle up, boys,  
For the work is play  
When love's in the cowboy's eyes,  
When his heart is light  
As the clouds of white  
That swim in the summer's skies.

*By Jack Thorpe 1908*

**English Course Awards: First, Second, and Third Place Awards for the following grade levels 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 presented at the Wild West Arts Festival on Thursday, March 14. Finalists announced at the beginning of the school day.**