

22nd
ANNUAL
POETRY
CONTEST
1997



Sponsored by: Youth Services Division
Silas Bronson Library
267 Grand Street
Waterbury, Connecticut

Silas Bronson Library
22nd Annual Poetry Contest
Awards Ceremony
April 1997

LIBRARY DIRECTOR: Lee Flanagan

YOUTH SERVICES DIVISION:

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JUDGES

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Former Adult Reference and Children's Librarian, Silas Bronson Library.
Currently a School Library/Media Specialist

JEAN FASCITELLI: Member of the Connecticut Poetry Society since 1991

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Funding provided by Friends of the Library

Poems printed as originally submitted

1997 ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST

THEMES BY GRADE

K - FINGERS

1 - SNOWSTORM

2 - HAIR

3 - BIRTHDAYS

4 - WAKE UP

5 - SECRETS

6 - FOOTPRINTS

7 - WHEN I GROW UP

8 - SHADOWS

PRIZE WINNERS

1997

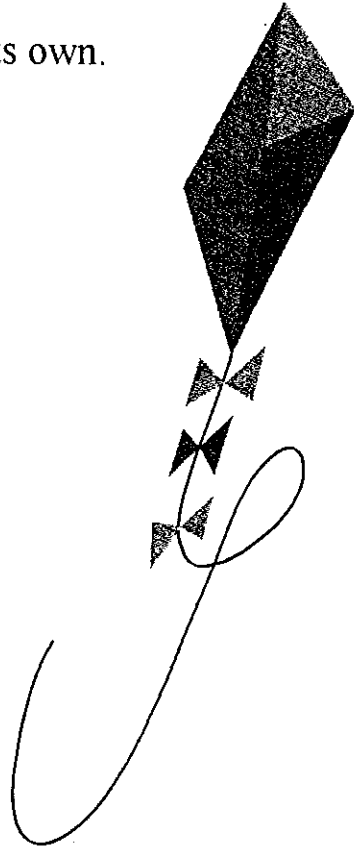
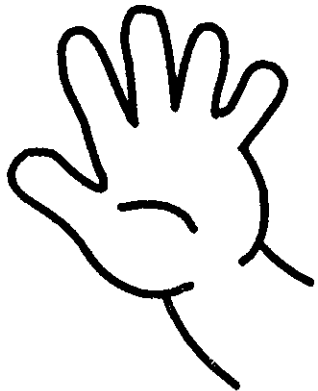
K - HEATHER MODENESE	St. Mary's
1 - MICHELLE MODENESE	St. Mary's
2 - JOSEPH LEVIN	Kingsbury
3 - CODY PITTS	St. Mary's
4 - KEVIN LOWNDS	B.W. Tinker
5 - NICHOLAS YOUNG	St. Margaret's
6 - PAUL SZANTYR	St. Mary's
7 - LAURA ZDANOWSKI	North End Middle
8 - SAMANTHA KUBECK	St. Mary Magdalen

MY FINGERS

The fingers I have are
part of my hand.
I like to use them to
dig in the sand, or
help me to write or
fly a kite.
No two could ever
be alike.
Each finger has a print of its own.
I thank God for
the ten that I own.



HEATHER MODENESE
ST. MARY'S SCHOOL
GRADE K
theme: fingers

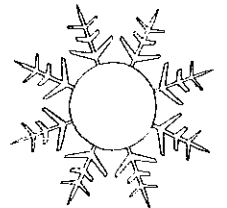


SNOWSTORM A Winter Wonder

Weather forecasters
hard at work.
A snowstorm is on its
way.
Wind howling, snow is
falling.
A snowstorm is here
to stay.
White powdered
walkways, no cars
anywhere.
Calmness is in the air.
What a beautiful
sight,
especially at night.
Christmas is almost
here!

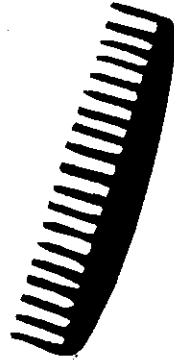


MICHELLE MODENESE
ST. MARY'S SCHOOL
GRADE 1
theme: snowstorm

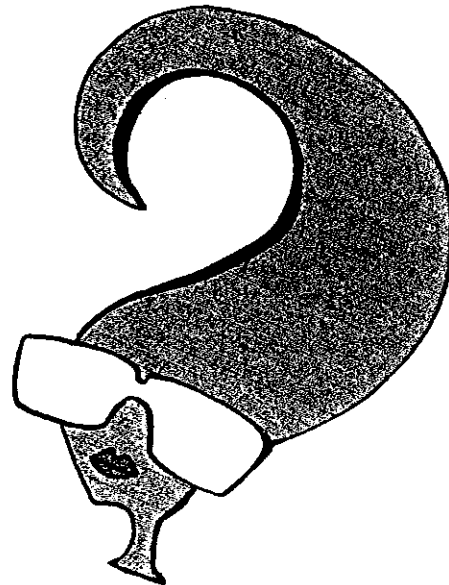


HAIR

My hair is brown.
My hair is thick.
One time the bubblegum
sure did stick.
My mom was mad.
I was sad.
But not to worry, here comes
dad. He used his clippers and
took away my fear. Now
there's a bald spot where
there used to be hair.

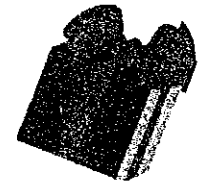


JOSEPH LEVIN
KINGSBURY SCHOOL
GRADE 2
theme: hair



BIRTHDAYS

On my birthday, when I was one,
I didn't know it could be such fun.
When I was two,
I still had no clue.
When I turned three,
I thought everything was free.
When I was four,
I got toys galore.
When I turned five,
I learned how to dive.
When I was six,
I learned Magic tricks.
When I was seven,
It was like heaven,
And now that I'm eight,
I think birthdays are GREAT!!



CODY PITTS
ST. MARY'S SCHOOL
GRADE 3
theme: birthdays



WAKE UP

I am on a bagel ship
gliding down the syrup river,
As I look into the sky,
I can see the banana-colored sun,
I see as well the waffle clouds high above me,
Then into view a chocolate-chip tornado came
swooping down over the toast covered ground,
pulling up the hills made of pears,
It's coming toward me,
I can feel the windy, swirling chocolate
surrounding me,
The sail of the bagel ship is zooming
through the syrup river,
I am hanging on for dear life to the side of the boat,
"Kevin, time to wake up."
Phew, it was all just a dream!



KEVIN LOWNDS
WEST SIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL
GRADE 4
theme: wake up



SECRETS

Secrets,
Quiet whispers,
Whistling through minds.
Tempting people to tell,
They're hidden away.
Kept alone
Clandestineness



**SHH!
DON'T
TELL!**

NICHOLAS YOUNG
ST. MARGARET SCHOOL
GRADE 5
theme: secrets



sp..sp..sp...

FOOTPRINTS

During the summer on the sandy beach
I see imprinted in the sand
Several hundred pairs of feet
Walking across the land.

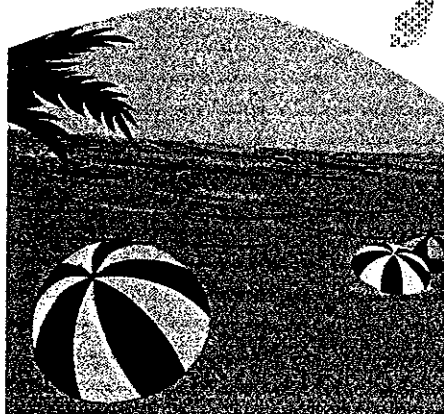
Some follow each other, and yet some don't
They go their separate ways
Others just remain in one certain place
Baking in the sun's vivid rays.

As I slowly walk along the shore
I notice something even more
The footprints don't just walk on the sand
But also toward the ocean floor.

Investigating under the water
I no longer see footprints there
The sea must have swallowed them in all its might
For the floor is flat and bare.

I will come here often, I say to myself
To watch the footprints run by
For they make the beach a marvelous place
To come when I'm happy, or need to sigh.

PAUL SZANTYR
ST. MARY'S SCHOOL
GRADE 6
theme: footprints



WHEN I GROW UP

One day when I am grown,
What I really see,
Is a teacher with the children,
Only up to her knee.



A teacher who is attentive,
Who cares for her children's needs,
A teacher who will plant and sow,
The special "Knowledge Seeds."



Some people wish to be rich,
With money and diamonds and pearls,
But these are only fantasies,
Which will only come in whirls.

One day when I am grown,
The wealth that I will see
Lies in the eyes of the children
That come up to my knee.



LAURA ZDANOWSKI
NORTH END MIDDLE SCHOOL
GRADE 7
theme: when I grow up

AS I SAT IN THE SHADOWS

It was five years ago on this fateful night,
I witnessed my brother's death,
Angry shadows surrounded his body,
As he took his final breath.

He was always a perfect gentleman,
He never hurt a fly,
I'm sure he was bound for heaven,
As he heard my last good-bye.

On that night he was walking home,
All alone, on a dangerous street,
When suddenly to his surprise,
Two hooded figures he would meet.

As I watched from our nearby house,
The two shadows reached for a gun,
My brother was frozen there in fear,
In my head, I begged him to run.

The two shadows showed no remorse,
As they took his life away,
I ran to his side as the two shadows left,
Hoping he would still be okay.

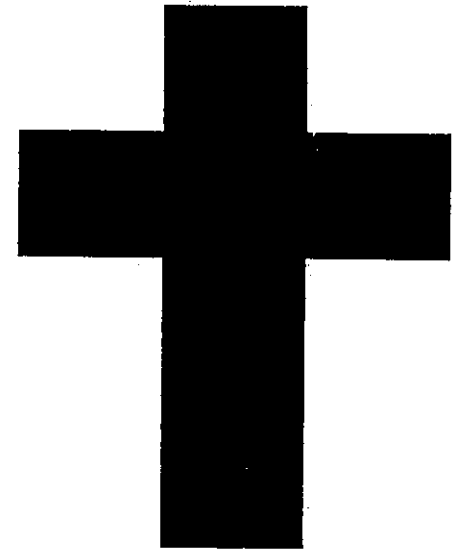
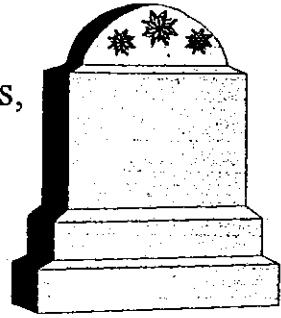
As soon as he saw me, he started to weep

We both knew that this was the end,
We exchanged good-byes and final thoughts,
As the ambulance rounded the bend.

He never arrived at the hospital,
He died in my arms on the way,
All his future plans and dreams,
Were shattered in a day.

Shadows that ended my brother's life,
Ended my own in a way,
They always remind me of my brother's death,
On that tragic, fateful day.

SAMANTHA KUBECK
ST. MARY MAGDALEN
GRADE 8
theme: shadows



HONORABLE MENTION

1997

K - IAN JOLIAT	Homeschooled
1 - JOSEPH CIARLEGLIO	Blessed Sacrament
2 - DENNIS POULTER	Kingsbury
3 - DANIELLE MCGEE	Wendell Cross
4 - MARYSSA SZONTYR	St. Mary's
5 - SARAH LEWIN	St. Margaret's
6 - TAYLOR-LYNN CAPALDO	St. Mary's
7 - BRENDAN MCDONALD	Blesses Sacrament
8 - ALISSA CIARLEGLIO	St. Mary Magdalen

FINGERS

My fingers are long and smooth
and they are like people because
they are shaped like people
and they can squirm.
I like my fingers
because with them I can
touch things
hold things
mold things.

IAN CURTIS JOLIAT
HOMESCHOOLED
GRADE K
theme: fingers

SNOWSTORM

Snow as white as a
Crayola White crayon

Falling as softly as
a kitten

The ground is like
my Pillow without
the case on

JOSEPH CIARLEGLIO
BLESSED SACRAMENT
GRADE 1
theme: snowstorm

HAIR

When my hair is too long
it gets in my eye
I can't see the grass or the trees
or the sky.

When my hair is too long and
I got to sleep at night
I wake up in the morning and
it stands upright.

When my hair is too long and
I comb or brush it but
it's still a mess.
I ask my mom if it's time for a hair
cut and she says "yes, yes, yes?"

DENNIS POULTER
KINGSBURY SCHOOL
GRADE 2
theme: hair

BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays are special,
Birthdays are grand.
Birthdays can be found in water,
and some on land.

Birthdays are fun,
Birthdays are cool
It's fun to run is the sun,
And rule the whole day through.

It's fun to get presents,
Especially if you get a pheasant!

Birthdays are cool,
Birthdays rule

Everyones birthday comes once a year,
And every time there is lots of cheer.

DANIELLE MCGEE
WENDELL CROSS
GRADE 3
theme: birthdays

WAKE UP

Wake up, Wake up,
It's time to start growing.
The sun is warmer,
It's no longer snowing.
April showers soon will fall,
To help you grow straight and tall.
When June arrives, all will know,
Because of all the colors that show.
Some may be blue, pink, white or red.
It's nature's miracle, a flower bed.

MARYSSA SZANTYR
ST. MARY'S SCHOOL
GRADE 4
theme: wake up

SECRETS

Listen very closely,
And maybe you will hear,
A very special secret,
But it won't be very clear.
You have to listen closely,
As close as close can be,
so keep your ears open,
'Cause it's something you can't see.

SARAH LEWIN
ST. MARGARET SCHOOL
GRADE 5
theme: secrets

FOOTPRINTS

Footprints we have followed,
And we will follow more.
Footprints of our knowledge,
We'll follow out the door.
Footprints of our relatives,
Alive and passed away.
Footprints of our caring friends,
That we remember today.
Footprints of our loved ones,
That have always been there.
Footprints of God's creatures,
That roam the earth with care.
Footprints we have followed,
We'll follow every day.
Footprints we'll keep following
To pass the time away.

TAYLOR-LYNN CAPALDO
ST. MARY'S SCHOOL
GRADE 6
theme: footprints

WHEN I GROW UP

When I grow up, I will see
Just how hard it is to be.

The work, the agony, and the pain,
Growing older could be a shame.

Though I must say, there are bright sides,
Like finally going on the huge rollercoaster rides.

Candy, chips, pizza galore,
No more parents, which I ignored.

You're out on your own, all alone
Your next move is always unknown.

At least you get to stay up late,
Even if you are on a date.

You're up and about, out the door
Exactly like I told you before.

When I grow up, I will see
Just how hard it is to be.

BRENDAN MCDONALD
BLESSED SACRAMENT
GRADE: 7
theme: When I grow up

SHADOWS

Shadows are my memories,
of my dearest brother,
Who I laughed with and loved,
for I had no other.

Shadows are my memories,
of that night, so gray,
Why him, why my brother,
please take it all away.

Shadows are my memories,
of how we swerved that night,
My brother, he looked worried,
and I sat there in fright.

Shadows are my memories,
of that drunken man,
Who hit me, hit my brother,
now alone I stand.

Shadows are my memories,
of the funeral the next day,
If the other man was drinking,
why does my brother have to pay?

Shadows are my memories
as I sit here and cry,

I ask myself everyday,
why did he have to die?

Shadows are my memories,
of the night I lost my brother,
For, people who drive drunk,
will kill another...

ALISSA CIARLEGLIO
ST. MARY MAGDALEN
GRADE: 8
theme: shadows

GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

You can help the Library. Gifts in any amount are always welcome. Memorial gifts for departed relatives or friends are a very special way to honor their memory. A bequest in your will is also a very special way to remember the Library and the entire community. Donors' wishes for handling gifts and bequests are carefully carried out. Gifts and bequests are tax deductible.

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The Friends contribute a variety of materials, equipment and services not financed in the annual city budget. They also provide support for Library programs and activities involving the community. New members are welcome to join the Friends of the Library and share their talents and experience for improved total library service. The Friends of the Library meet at the Bunker Hill Branch the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____
Address _____
Town & Zip Code _____
Telephone _____
Interested in volunteer work? YES NO

Membership Fee:

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Mail application plus check to:
The Friends of the Silas Bronson Library
267 Grand Street
Waterbury, CT 06702

Friends receive the Library's monthly newsletter of library services, events and programs.