

**40TH  
ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST  
MAY 21, 2015**



**SPONSORED BY  
CHILDREN'S SERVICES  
SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY  
267 GRAND STREET  
WATERBURY, CT 06702**

**SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY  
40TH ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST  
AWARDS CEREMONY  
2015**

**Interim Director: Gary Bach**

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIVISION:**

**Clivel Charlton, Head, Children's Services**

**Juleigh Paradise, Poetry Contest Coordinator**

**Margaret Keating**

**Mary Jo Cote**

**JUDGES**

**Ms. Helene Earl:**

B.A., M.A., Central CT State University; 6th yr., Southern CT State University. Retired Waterbury Teacher-Special Education and second grade.

**Ms. Sandra Bishop Ebner:**

R.N. psychiatric case manager, visiting nurse. Published poet, conducted poetry workshops for children and adults, taught poetry to seventh grade, judged IMPAC poetry awards.

**Ms. Victoria Munoz:**

B.A. in Music Therapy, Western Illinois University.  
Music Therapist, musician, singer, songwriter, published poet.

**FUNDING PROVIDED BY:  
FRIENDS OF THE SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY**

**\*All poems appear as they were received.**

Special Guests Musicians of the Annual Poetry Contest:



Providing the finest in musical experiences since 1970

# Greater Waterbury Youth Symphony

Chamber Group with the Waterbury Symphony

Chamber Ensemble –

Katherine Ross (violin 1), Jennifer DiZazzo (violin 2), Vincent Kaverud (violin 2), Wyatt Bosma (viola)  
Gjorgi Kroqi (cello)

Chamber Performances - Chamber Groups are musicians selected by their interest and group instrumentation. These small groups meet weekly prior to the GWYS rehearsal and are self-driven. These groups perform at various venues throughout the season. They have been featured at Waterbury Symphony Orchestra concerts, Barnes and Noble, and the Mattatuck Museum concert. Advanced musicians wishing to participate must understand the commitment to these extra performances. There is a nominal fee for participants.

In addition to joining the orchestra a musician can audition for Chambers. These small groups play separately from the larger orchestra, complementing their musical experience.

203-525-3939



**SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY**  
**40TH ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST**  
**2015**

**THEMES by GRADE**

**1st My Favorite Animal**

**2nd It's Spring!**

**3rd Dinosaurs**

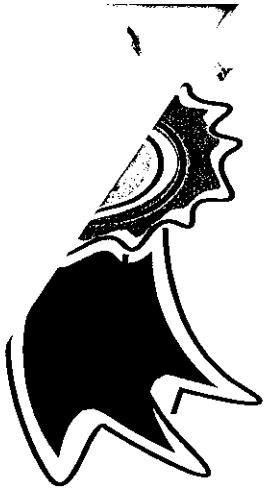
**4th Scary Things**

**5th My Favorite Invention**

**6th Finding Treasure**

**7th If I Were a Superhero**

**8th If I Could Change the World**



# FIRST PRIZE WINNERS

## 2015

### Grade

- 1 Giuliana Colangelo
- 2 Joseph Lionel Benjamin French
- 3 Kavi Lezama
- 4 Naomi Lynn Negron
- 5 Olivia Mascola
- 6 Viola Flowers
- 7 Shawn Michael Austin
- 8 Jamie Breidenbach



# My Favorite Animal

My favorite animal is a horse!

They are big animals of course.

Horses can be white, brown or black.

You need a saddle to ride on its back.

Horses have long tails.

They like to jump over wooden rails.

Horses eat apples, carrots and hay.

They like to be outside all day.

Horses walk and run.

I think a pet horse would be fun!

Giuliana Colangelo

Wendell Cross School grade 1



## Spring

The long cold winter is melting away.  
A single red bird was spotted today.  
Through the mist the sun is peeking.  
Squirrels are about acorn-seeking.

Joseph Lionel Benjamin French  
Sts. Peter & Paul School grade 2



# We Know, I Know Dinos Lived

We know that dinosaurs lived on the earth many years ago...

I know that because somehow they died, and their bones sank into the ground...

We collected the fossils that's how we know that dinosaurs were around...

I know dinosaurs can come in different colors, shapes and size...

Some dinosaurs like the triceratops, pteranodon and T-Rex we know...

But the one I know and like the best: sleeps upon my bed...

He has spikes upon his tail that runs up to his head...

I called him Q-pix but his real name is stegosaurus!

I built him myself with love and care; but if you'd like I'll be willing to share.

Kavi Lezama  
Chase School grade 3





# Spooky Things

Spooky things here.

Spooky things there.

Oh, spooky things.

They're everywhere.

Some are brown and some are green,

But some are really mean.

Some are hairy and really scary.

Some are dark,

So they make their mark.

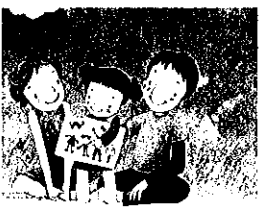
Oh, spooky things that are under my bed!

There is one more thing I need to tell,

Spooky things, you're just in my head.

Naomi Lynn Negron

Wendell Cross School grade 4



## My Favorite Invention

If you ask me right now,  
"What's your favorite invention?"  
Tablets and laptops I'm sure would be mentioned.  
Not shoes, nor make-up or summer vacations.  
Not even my X-Box or Sony Playstation.  
For none make me happy like Mom's admiration,  
Or Dad's kooky but loving wild imagination.  
So, I'm hoping you guessed it; my favorite invention.  
For this little lady is my parents' attention!

**Olivia Mascola**

**Wendell Cross School grade 5**



## How To Find Treasure

All around, people young and old  
Search for that treasure chest filled with gold.  
They dream and dream, but then they cannot get ahold  
Of that treasure chest filled with gold.

"How?" they wonder

"How do I find my treasure without a map?"

Well my friend, it's simpler than that.  
Treasure is all around us, though you may not see.  
I'll share with you some things it can be.

An inviting smile after a rough day,  
Waking up in the morning to a 90 minute delay!

The knowledge that you are not alone,  
The exhilaration of venturing into the unknown.

Friends and family, all packed tight  
To keep each other warm on a cold winter's night.  
But as you have been told,  
Treasure can always be that chest filled with gold.

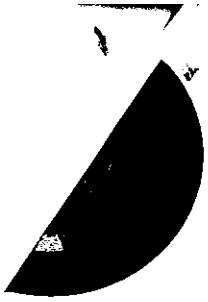
Viola Flowers  
Carrington School grade 6



## If I Were a Superhero

If I were a superhero...  
I could run super fast,  
I could fly super high.  
I'd save many lives,  
I'd let no one cry.  
I'd heal the sick,  
I'd cure cancer.  
I'd solve world hunger,  
I'd have all the answers.  
I'd stop crime,  
I'd create world peace.  
I'd help all people,  
Every son, daughter, nephew, and niece.  
But I'm not a superhero.  
I can't run super fast,  
I can't fly super high, as hard as I may try.  
I might not be able to heal the sick,  
Or cure cancer.  
I might not be able to solve world hunger,  
Or have all the answers.  
I might not be able to stop crime,  
Or create world peace.  
Even if everyone can't do everything,  
Everyone is a hero.  
Whether they are an actor, cop, or even if they sing.  
Everyone is a hero as long as they do what they can,  
Whether they are a woman or a man.

Shawn Michael Austin  
Sts. Peter and Paul School grade 7



# If I Could Change the World

If I could change the world,  
I'd make it a perfect place to be,  
Yet with all my prayers and wishes  
It'd be a world we'd never see.

But let's just say  
I had my way  
God granting me a day...

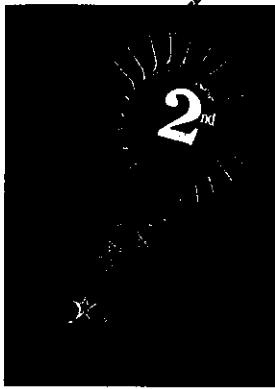
I'd cure the world of illness,  
Of suffering and pain.  
I'd make the climates hospitable,  
Where there is drought I'd send the rain.

Where there is poverty and hunger,  
Where there is killing and war,  
Every belly would be ever filled,  
And peace reign evermore.

There'd be no angry, ugly words,  
No cruelty, great or small.  
Every person would be tolerant  
And love would embrace us all.

A dream, a hope, a wish, a prayer—  
In my small way I'll get us there,  
If I can change the world.

Jamie Breidenbach  
Sts. Peter and Paul School grade 8



## **HONORABLE MENTION 2015**

### **Grade**

- 1 Mary Grace Tripp**
- 2 Madison Updegraff**
- 3 Gianni Beers**
- 4 Leah Kulmann**
- 5 Ashton Sannasi**
- 6 Megan Arias**
- 7 Rose Marie Canales**
- 8 Noah Haines**



## The Husky

The husky dog big and strong,  
Her furry tail bushy and long.  
Ears perked up to hear a sound,  
Eyes straight forward,  
Feet firm on the ground.

She runs, she leaps up high  
Almost as if she touches the sky.  
Mouth open wide in hope of catching the ball.  
She clenches down hard and has it all.  
She's done now with job on the farm  
Now relaxed, snug and safe in her master's arms.

Mary Grace Tripp

Sts. Peter and Paul School grade 1



# Spring

Surprise! spring is finally here.

Pretty flowers blooming near.

Rabbits hopping here and there.

I see butterflies everywhere.

Noisy crickets chirping at night.

Going to fly a kite.

Madison Updegraff

Rotella School grade 2

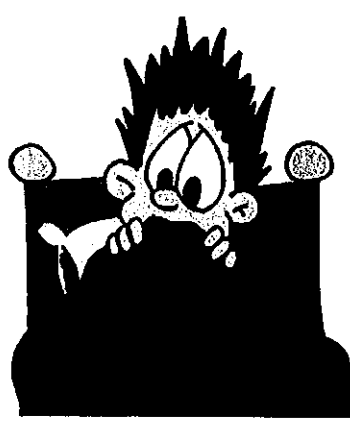




# Ankylosaurus

Boom—Boom—Stomp—Boom!  
Don't worry he's not in the room  
You can possibly find a fossil  
Those bones were colossal  
Tyrannosaurus take a seat  
You couldn't get to eat his meat  
With a body built like a tank  
Protected like a safe in a bank  
Although he ate plants as it should  
Ankylosaurus is now gone for good.

Gianni Beers  
Sprague School grade 3



# The Dark

Shadows moving down the hall,  
Howling, creaking, soaring.

The lights start to flicker,  
CRASH! BANG! BOOM!

I hide under my covers,  
the floors start to creak.

Time for a night light!!

Leah Kulmann

Rotella School grade 4



# My Favorite Invention

My favorite invention is  
The internet, you could lookup  
Lebron James, you could play  
Computer games, you could look up bunnies,  
Because sometimes they funny,  
You could look up Pope Francis,  
You could look different sunglasses,  
You could take online classes,  
You could learn how to cook,  
Maybe you could read a book.

Ashton Sannasi  
Sts. Peter and Paul School grade 5



## *Finding Treasure*

*When I say "Finding Treasure" you might,  
Think pirates, jewels, and gold,  
But I think of something different,  
It's not as bright and bold.*

*Treasure to me are memories,  
The little things that are the big things,  
Ones that aren't captured by something with batteries,  
They are like new beginnings.*

*You might not realize it now,  
But some day you will see,  
These memories stick with you somehow,  
Just like they did with me.*

*Megan Arias  
St. Mary School grade 6*



# If I Were a Superhero

If I were a Superhero I'd definitely fly  
Arms outward reaching for the sky  
If I were a Superhero I would have extra special powers  
Like strong legs to run for hours and hours  
If I were a Superhero I would save all of the oceans  
With my awesome cleaning up potions  
If I were a Superhero I would save the trees  
And the mountains and the rivers, the birds and the bees  
If I were a Superhero I would help all of the poor  
So that they would go hungry no more  
If I were a Superhero I would clean up all of the trash  
With my Superhero friends it would be gone in a flash  
If I were a Superhero, I would save the world from evil  
The world wouldn't be controlled by a super, villain Señor Weasel  
If I were a Super Hero I'm sure you would agree  
The world would be a better place because of me

Rosie Marie Canales  
Saint Mary School grade 7



# If I Could Change The World

If I could change the world,  
There would be no war.  
The world would be more peaceful  
Than it ever was before.  
If I could change the world  
There would be no more sorrow,  
People wouldn't worry about today  
But look forward to tomorrow.  
If I could change the world,  
Beauty would never fade  
There have been times when I've picked a flower  
And wished its beauty had stayed.  
If I could change the world,  
No one would ever fight  
No one would ever hurt another  
Be it the time of day or night  
I wish I could change the world,  
So that everyone could see.  
That everyone on this planet  
Is one big family.

Noah Haines  
Sts. Peter and Paul School grade 8

## GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

help the Library. Gifts in any amount are always welcome. Memorial gifts for departed relatives or friends are a 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 followed. Gifts and bequests are tax deductible.

## FRIENDS OF THE SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY

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 the second Tuesday of even numbered months at the Silas Bronson Library.

### FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Town & Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Interested in Volunteer work?      YES                      NO

#### Membership fee:

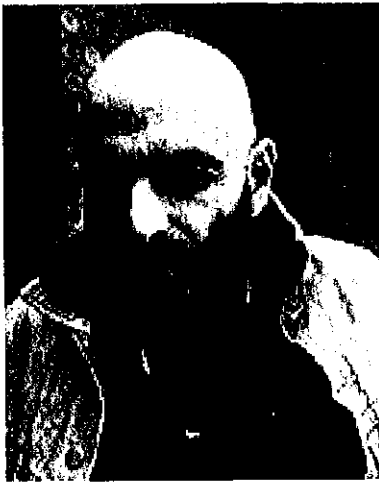
|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Individual           | \$25.00  |
| Senior/Student       | \$15.00  |
| Patron               | \$50.00  |
| Organization         | \$50.00  |
| Business, Industrial | \$100.00 |
| Other Contribution   | \$ _____ |

SEE BROCHURE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Mail completed application plus check to:

The Friends of the Silas Bronson Library  
P.O. 2853  
Waterbury, CT 06723

# FAMOUS CHILDREN'S POETS



**Shel Silverstein**



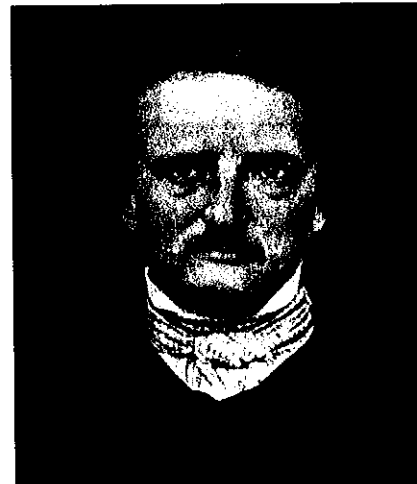
**Robert Frost**



**Emily Dickinson**



**Maya Angelou**



**Edgar Allan Poe**

Children's Services  
Silas Bronson Library  
267 Grand Street  
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Phone: 203-574-8212  
[www.bronsonlibrary.org](http://www.bronsonlibrary.org)