

## Official Contest Rules and Regulations

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The **Official Contest Rules and Regulations** will be available online through a text link on the **Contest Entry Form**.

### Teen Poetry Slam

#### Official Contest Rules and Regulations (“Contest Rules”)

1. **CONTEST PERIOD:** This Contest commences on Thursday, April 5, 2012 and ends at 6:30 pm on Friday, April 27, 2012 (“**Contest Period**”). Limit one entry per person.
2. **CONTEST EVENT:** The Teen Poetry Slam Event (“Contest Event”) shall take place at Mississauga Central Library in the Noel Ryan Auditorium Friday, April 27, 2012 from 7:00 pm until 8:30 pm.
3. **HOW TO ENTER:** The entry form will be made available online by The Corporation of the City of Mississauga as represented by the Mississauga Library System (“**Contest Sponsor**”) from Thursday, April 05, 2012 at [www.mississauga.ca/library](http://www.mississauga.ca/library). Individuals who wish to enter the Contest must complete the entry form and submit it in accordance with the online instructions. Incomplete entry forms will not be accepted. Online entries must be complete and received by the Contest Sponsor on or before Friday, April 27, 2012 at 12:00 am. The entry form will also be made available at the Mississauga Central Library in the Noel Ryan Auditorium on Friday, April 27, 2012 from 5:30pm – 6:30pm.
4. **NO PURCHASE NECESSARY:** There is no purchase necessary to enter the Contest.
5. **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:** This Contest is open to all individuals who, at the time that they enter the Contest: (i) **are between 13 and 19 years** of age; and (ii) are legal residents of Canada outside of the Province of Quebec (the “Entrants”). However, the Contest Sponsor’s elected officials, and the directors, officers, employees, suppliers, agents, sponsors, contractors, administrators, licensees, or other representatives of the Contest Sponsor, or of its advertising or promotional agencies, or any member of their immediate families or households, are not eligible to enter.

Each Entrant shall only register once and must be prepared to perform their poem at the Contest Event. Entries will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. Should the Contest Sponsor receive an overwhelming amount of entries, the Contest Sponsor, in its sole discretion, is entitled to limit the amount of Entrants to fifty (50). The Contest Sponsor cannot guarantee that all registered Entrants will be able to perform.

6. **PRIZES:** There are three (3) prizes available to be won. One (1) \$75 gift certificate from Chapters/Indigo (“**1<sup>st</sup> Prize**”), one (1) \$50 gift certificate from Chapters/Indigo (“**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize**”), and one (1) \$25 gift certificate from Chapters/Indigo (“**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize**”). Prizes must be accepted as awarded and are non-exchangeable, non-transferable, non-refundable and not redeemable for cash equivalent. Any unclaimed prize will be forfeited and have no

cash value. The Contest Sponsor reserves the right, in its absolute discretion, to substitute a prize of equal value in whole or in part for any reason.

## 7. WINNER SELECTION:

Three (3) winners shall be selected as follows:

- a. The performances by Entrants will be judged by a panel comprised of members of the Mississauga Library System's Teen Advisory Groups. Each performance will be given a final score out of ten (10) immediately following the performance; five (5) out of the ten (10) marks will be based on the poem itself, while the other five (5) will be based on the performance of the poem. Judges may also choose to assign up to one decimal point to their score (for example a score could be recorded as 4.5 or 4.6. Audience reaction to both poem and performance may be taken into consideration by judges when assigning scores.
- b. All scores will remain confidential. Judges will record their scores on prepared ballots, which will be passed onto the scorekeeper, who will enter the scores in a prepared spreadsheet, designed for automatic tally. The scorekeeper will keep the individual ballots until the end of the evening, and they will be shredded following the event.
- c. In the event of a tie amongst two or more Entrants for any of the top three positions, tiebreaking rules will come into effect. The names of the tied Entrants will be returned to the judges on prepared tiebreaking ballots, who will each rank the tied Entrants in their preferred order. These will be returned to the scorekeeper, who will tally the ranking of each Entrant based on the following point system: (i) one (1) point for first (1<sup>st</sup>) place; (ii) two (2) points for second (2<sup>nd</sup>) place; and (iii) three (3) points for third (3<sup>rd</sup>) place etc. For tiebreaking purposes, the lowest ranking score will determine the final positions. If necessary, this process will be repeated until the first (1<sup>st</sup>), second (2<sup>nd</sup>) and third (3<sup>rd</sup>) positions are determined.
- d. All genres and styles of poetry are welcome.
- e. Only original poems written by an Entrant will be accepted. Poems deemed to be another poet's work and/or plagiarized from another source will not be assigned scores and will be disqualified.
- f. Entrants are welcome to read their poems from a page, improvise, or recite the poem from memory. Judges are entitled to score the performance at their own discretion.
- g. No props, costumes, musical instruments, dramatic use of clothing or other assistive aids are allowed. Participants will be judged on the merit of their poem and its presentation. Judges will deduct three (3) points for a violation of this Rule.
- h. Each Entrant is allotted three (3) minutes of performance time. Entrants are responsible for keeping track of the timing of their performance and being aware

of the cues and warnings provided by the timekeepers. Timing will commence once the Entrant has reached speaking distance of microphone. At the ninety (90) second mark, a green card will be flashed, indicating Entrant is halfway through allotted time. A yellow card will be flashed at the two (2) minute mark, followed by a red card at the two (2) minutes thirty (30) second mark. All colour cards are to be held for five (5) seconds. At the three (3) minute mark, "X" card is held up to indicate Entrant has gone overtime. "X" card is held until Entrant is finished performance. At the four (4) minute mark, if the Entrant is still not finished, performance is interrupted and the Entrant is asked to continue off the stage. Entrants will be allotted a ten (10) second grace period following the three (3) minute mark in which no points shall be deducted from their score. After this, Entrants will be penalized one half-point (0.5) for each ten (10) second period the performance continues following the grace period. There is no minimum time for performances, and the length of the poem does not reflect its merit.

- i. The selected Entrants will be notified by the Contest Sponsor in person at the conclusion of the Contest Period. All Entrants who wish to be judged and considered eligible for a prize must be present at Mississauga Central Library in the Noel Ryan Auditorium on Friday April 27, 2012 at 7:00 pm. The Contest Sponsor is not responsible for the failure for any reason whatsoever of a selected Entrant to receive notification or for the Contest Sponsors failure to receive a selected Entrant's response.
- j. If a selected Entrant: (i) is not present at the commencement of the Contest Event; (ii) has not complied with these Contest Rules; or (iii) declines the prize; then that person's entry is disqualified and the prize forfeited and the Contest Sponsor may, but is not obligated to, select another Entrant from the remaining eligible entries received during the Contest Period (not including the entries chosen for the other prizes) for a chance to receive the prize. The Contest Sponsor reserves the right to not select another entry or award a prize if any of the events in subsections 7(j)(i) – (iii) occur.
- k. Winners will be announced at the close of the Contest Period to the audience present and may also be announced through the Contest Sponsor website and publications. If the selected Winner is no longer present, they will be notified by telephone or email no later than the end of the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Business Day following the date of the Contest Event (the "**Notification Period**"). Each selected Entrant must respond by person or by telephone to the contact number provided in the notification and the selected Entrant's response must be received by the Contest Sponsors no later than five (5) Business Days from the date upon which notification was made by the Contest Sponsor (the "**Response Period**"). "**Business Day**" means any day that is not: a day upon which the Contest Sponsor is not open for business and the end of the Business Day shall mean 5:00 pm Eastern Time, in Mississauga, Ontario on that Business Day. For the purposes of calculating the Response Period, the day upon which notification was made by the Contest Sponsor shall not be counted as part of the Response Period. If the selected Entrant does not respond within the Response Period, he/she may not be eligible for the prize and another Entrant may be selected in the Contest Sponsors sole discretion.

8. CONDUCT: Contest Sponsor reserves the right at its sole discretion to disqualify any Entrant from the Contest, and to ban that Entrant from any future Contest of the Contest Sponsor, if Contest Sponsor finds or believes such Entrant to be tampering with the entry process or the operation of the Contest or where applicable, the Contest website; to be acting in violation of the Contest Rules or in a disruptive manner, or with intent to annoy, abuse, threaten or harass the Contest Sponsor, Contest Sponsor's agencies, other Entrants, the judges or any other person. Any attempt by an Entrant or any other person to deliberately damage any website or undermine the legitimate operation of the Contest is a violation of criminal and civil laws and should such an attempt be made, Contest Sponsor reserves the right to seek damages from any such person to the fullest extent permitted by law.

In addition, Entrants are asked to comply with the spirit of the standards set for all visitors to the library, as outlined in the "Code of Conduct" document posted on the library website:

<http://www.mississauga.ca/file/COM/CodeofConduct2011.pdf>

All Entrants are advised that this is an open community event and it is expected that citizens of all ages, including young children, will be in attendance. During the Contest Event, please refrain from using profanity, disrespectful and/or derogatory language, slurs and slander. This is intended to be an inclusive event, and respect for others is paramount.

9. RELEASE OF LIABILITY: The Contest Sponsor and its elected officials, its advertising, media buying and promotional agencies and their respective directors, officers, employees, suppliers, agents, sponsors, contractors, administrators, licensees, and representatives (collectively, the "**Contest Entities**") accept no responsibility for any injury, loss, or damage that the undersigned may suffer in connection with the undersigned's participation in the Contest or any Contest-related activity, and/or the undersigned's acceptance, use, or misuse of any prize; any breach of the Contest Rules by the undersigned; the conduct of the Contest; the operation of the website through which Entrants may submit entries to the Contest; any alternate method of entering the Contest; or any third party claims in relation to the Contest (collectively, "**Claims**"). By entering the Contest, the Entrant irrevocably releases and indemnifies the Contest Entities from and against any and all Claims that the Entrant may have against the Contest Entities and/or in relation to the Contest. The Contest Winner will be required to sign and return, within the time period indicated on the documents, a declaration of compliance with the Contest Rules and a full liability and publicity release and/or any other document required by the Contest Entities in relation thereto.
10. DISCLAIMER AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY: The website through which the Contest is offered, and all software and hardware used to operate the website are made available for Entrants to enter the Contest on as "as is" basis without warranty of any kind, express or implied, including, but not limited to, implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. There are no warranties that the Contest website or the software and hardware used to operate it will be uninterrupted or error-free, that defects will be corrected, that it is free of viruses, worms or other harmful components, that entries will be received or processed or that the Contest website or the software and hardware used to operate it are accurate, reliable or secure. In no event will the Contest Entities be liable for any lost or damaged data. None of the Contest Entities shall be responsible for lost, stolen, delayed, damaged or misdirected entries, or

for any failure, or for any problems or technical malfunction of any internet or telephone network or broadcast transmission during the Contest Period. Without limiting the release of liability provisions herein, and for greater certainty, the Contest Entities will not be liable for: (i) any incorrect or inaccurate information, whether caused by Contest website users or by any equipment or programming associated with or utilized in the Contest or by any technical or human error which may occur in the processing of entries in the Contest; (ii) any error, omission, interruption, deletion, defect or delay in operation of the Contest website or any transmission in connection with the Contest; (iii) any communications line failure, theft, destruction or unauthorized access to, or alteration of, entries; (iv) any problems with, or technical malfunction of, any telephone network or lines, computer on-line systems, servers or providers, computer equipment, software, or failure of e-mail which may occur for any reason whatsoever, including technical problems or traffic congestion on the Internet or at any website or combination thereof; or (v) any injury or damage to Entrants' or to any other person's computer related to or resulting from participating or downloading materials in this Contest.

11. CANCELLATION OR MODIFICATION OF CONTEST: If for any reason, this Contest is, in the Contest Sponsor's sole discretion, not capable of running as planned (including, without limitation, by reason of damage by computer virus, worms, bugs, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical limitation or failures, applicable law, unforeseen obstacles or any other causes which in the sole opinion of Contest Sponsor could corrupt, compromise, undermine or otherwise affect the administration, security fairness, integrity viability or proper conduct of the Contest), the Contest Sponsor reserves the right in its sole and absolute discretion to modify these rules and/or to modify or suspend all or any part of the Contest. The Contest Sponsor further reserves the right to cancel or terminate this Contest at any time for any reason. The Contest Sponsor reserves the right to select Entrants to be eligible to win the prizes from among all eligible entries received up to the time of any such cancellation, termination, modification or suspension, as applicable.
12. RULES BINDING: By entering this Contest, an Entrant acknowledges and agrees that the Contest Rules are legally binding. All decisions of the Contest Sponsor are final and without appeal in all matters relating to this Contest and the awarding of the prize.
13. GOVERNING LAW: The Contest is subject to all applicable laws and shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Province of Ontario and the laws of Canada applicable therein.
14. PERSONAL INFORMATION: All personally identifiable information ("**Personal Information**") collected in connection with this Contest will be used solely for purposes of administering this Contest and for publicity and promotional purposes relating to the Contest. This Personal Information will not otherwise be sold or transmitted to third parties except to third-party agents and service providers in connection with the foregoing activities. Names of the Contest winners may be published by the Contest Sponsor and will be made available upon written request. By entering the Contest each Entrant grants his/her permission for the collection, use and disclosure of his/her Personal Information submitted to the Contest Sponsor for the foregoing purposes and the purposes described in the Contest Sponsor's privacy policy at <http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/helpfeedback/privacy>. Please see the Contest Sponsor's privacy policy at <http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/helpfeedback/privacy> for

full information on the Contest Sponsor's policy towards maintaining the privacy and security of Personal Information.

15. PUBLICITY: By participating in the Contest, each winner agrees that his or her name, province or territory of residence, any statements made relating to the Contest and any photograph or other likeness of the winner may be used by the Contest Entities for any and all commercial purposes in any and all media, whether now known or hereafter devised, without further permission or compensation, including, without limitation, in any advertising or broadcasting material relating to the Contest and/or future similar contests, except where prohibited by law.
16. COPYRIGHT: The Entrant agrees that all copyright in his/her completed entry form and in any material depicting the Entrant's likeness or other information about the Entrant shall be vested in the Contest Sponsor and Entrant hereby irrevocably assigns all of his/her worldwide intellectual property rights in and to such entry form and materials to the Contest Sponsor and waives all moral rights therein.
17. FURTHER INFORMATION: For assistance with this contest, or a copy of the Official Contest Rules and Regulations, or for the names of the winners, email your queries to [library.readers@mississauga.ca](mailto:library.readers@mississauga.ca) or mail your queries to

**Mississauga Central Library  
301 Burnhamthorpe Rd W  
Mississauga ON L5B 3Y3  
Attention: Senior Librarian, Readers' Den Department**

ENTRANT'S AGREEMENT: By entering the Contest, each Entrant agrees to the foregoing Contest Rules.