



A Celebration of Writers

Congratulations to all of our Distinguished Writers - May 5, 2018



This is an FHEVS publication of our assembly notes and the winning poems from our Celebration of Writers Spring Assembly. Enjoy!



A Celebration of Writers



Tobin Schafer and Amelia Kapostasy: Student Hosts

Good morning skippers, young and old.

We welcome you unto our folds.

I would like to ask you all to stand,

For the Pledge of Allegiance is at hand.

We have begun this gathering of open minds with a quatrain. The quatrain is a powerful tool in poetry, and next the power of the rhyme, the most recognized. A quatrain is a stanza in poetry that has four lines.

As we end the second year of our Fair Poet initiative here at Fairport Harding, we also end our fourth Fair Poet Competition.

Like the four seasons, each competition has brought about new challenges to stimulate the minds of the young poets that we have come together to celebrate today, and like the aforementioned quatrain, we end a chapter in the fair poet movement.

As with all things in life, without time having marched forward, we never would have had the opportunity to provide the means for our poets to express themselves here in our community.

Time has allowed our teachers here at Harding to pass on the tools and skills required for creative writing to flourish.

Time has allowed our students to polish their craft and continue to strive towards excellence, and perfection.

Time has allowed 4 wonderful competitions, each rife with their own creative challenges, to come and go.

Yet, patiently, our students have taken on the challenge time and time again as they aim to achieve greatness.

As all quatrains must end, so to must this fourth chapter of the fair poet competition.

A powerful ending always marks a new beginning though, and after this next stanza break our skippers will arise to the challenge to begin the next stanza, with open eyes and a patient pen.



A Celebration of Writers

Ryan Chipps is an 8th grader at Harding. He enjoys playing basketball and also likes to bowl. He is also a pretty good dancer! One fellow classmates said that they thought it was very well written. It made them really think about patience and it used phrases that they could understand. His poem is called "Patience is Key."

Patience is Key

Patience is key in any situation

You have to have patience in our nation

Patience will help you in the tough times

And when you are playing basketball and dropping dimes

Patience can help you throughout your life

It will help you survive in the wildlife

If you want to strive

Patience will help you when you are learning how to drive

Patience will help you become a better person

You need patience so your life does not worsen

You have to be patient when you try and get your degree

And this is why patience is key for you and me



A Celebration of Writers

Owen Meacham is not a newbie to the Fair Poet stage. He is the Fall Fair Poet First place winner for the Fall 2017 contest. Owen enjoys running track, participating on the robotics team at school and cheeseburgers. One classmate said this: "I liked the poem because it was about baseball. the way the poem flowed was awesome." Owen's poem is titled "On the Mound, in the Box."

On the Mound, in the Box

On the mound the pitcher stands

Waiting for the batter...

The man himself, the legend some would call him

Comes out of the dugout, anticipating the at-bat before him

He steps into the box, gets ready

And waits for the pitch...

Ball one, in the dirt two inches in front of him

The man thinks, gets ready, and says

If the pitch is anywhere near

That ball will be blasted out of here

The man waits for what feels like forever

For his opportunity to strike

And then it comes

The set, the pitch...

Belt high, down the pipe

Everyone's dream pitch

The swing...

Gone.



A Celebration of Writers

Lexington Patrick is a 7th grader at Fairport. This is his first time as a Fair Poet finalist. His favorite food is bacon. One student said this about their poem: "I liked how they told a story in this poem. I liked their descriptive language as well." Lexington wrote a poem called "Traffic."

Traffic

The man was as patient as a dog waiting for his owner
He was in no rush
The traffic was a weight on him, heavy like a planet
He did not make a sound.
The cars in front were a wall that was slowly crumbling
He could smell the car fuel
The sound he made was silent like a void
He was focused like a lion
Each car was a river With no patience
The traffic was like space, seemingly endless
Everyone has a limit on patience
His was infinite to some
Brake lights begin to blink off
Breaks appearing in the dam, water leaks through the cracks
Each car like a drop of water slowly wearing it down
And eventually the river begins its journey to the ocean
Every drop of water has a destination and has to wait years for that
Every foot gained a reward on a beautiful day



A Celebration of Writers

Rachel Shaw is an 8th grader at Fairport. She enjoys band and basketball during school, and dance within the community. She also participated in the ALPHA project. Rachel's favorite food is pasta. One student said this about Rachel's poem: "I felt like they were giving advice. It feels like they are actually speaking to you." Rachel's poem is called "The Art of Patience."

The Art of Patience

It's a beautiful thing, patience

When you have it, you can't feel anger

It keeps you calm and focused

And it keeps your mind clear

When you don't have patience

Things get ugly

Ugly with hate and anger

Ugly with violence and hurt

To understand the art of patience,

You have to go without patience



A Celebration of Writers

Delaney Sherwood's poem is called "Patience" and was presented at the assembly by Ari Ocasio. One of the students when voting for Delaney's poem said they thought the anecdote was "really cool and something personal to be shared. To say something like that is brave."

Patience

Waiting for the future and forgetting about the past
Waiting for the sand to slip through the glass
Waiting for the flowers to bloom
Waiting for the moon to hang
Waiting for the snow to fly
Birds flying high
PATIENCE
Stay strong
every second
A drop of blood
Patience is what I learn
I wait and wait for my turn
Someone will make a cure one day
Always waiting for my diabetes to go away



A Celebration of Writers

Lewin Uhlir is a 7th grader at Fairport. He runs track for our junior high team. His events include: Long Jump, 4x200 relay, and the hurdles. Lewin enjoys doing parkour and freerunning. One student said this about Lewin's poem: "I like how it goes with the flow. I love how it rhymed and the words in the whole poem." Lewin's poem is titled "Starman."

Starman

T-3,2,1

As I start to raise into the sky

I am Unable to cry

I say goodbye to the land which had once been home

But maybe I could find another zone

My whereabouts will be known

But I will still float alone

Waiting patiently until I arrive

At least I have this Tesla to drive

My destination was set as Mars

But it looks like i'm heading for the stars



A Celebration of Writers

During the Celebration of Writers Assembly, English teachers Mrs. Knight and Ms. Murphey recognized several distinguished writers at Fairport who have won recent essay and poetry contests in the community.

Lake County Law Day Winner Maria Sterringer is pictured below. Maria attends Auburn Career Center in the Culinary Arts Program. Maria won the **Lake County Law Day Essay Contest** this year - she was honored at the annual Lake County Law Day Breakfast held at the Lamalfa Center on May 1st. Congrats to Maria for her winning essay written on the separation of powers in government! #skipperpride For more information, please visit our school website [here](#).



Left to Right: Mrs. Fischer, Maria Sterringer, Dr. Paolo



A Celebration of Writers



Congrats Maria Sterringer and Morgan Braemer!



Thank you to the American Chemical Society for sponsoring the first ever **Chemists Celebrate Earth Week Illustrated Poetry Contest**. Both Maria Sterringer and Morgan Braemer were honored on May 2, 2018 at the Young Scientists Awards Banquet at the Pine Ridge Country Club. Maria was the 9-12 grade winner and Morgan was the 6-8 grade winner. They each won \$100 dollars and two tickets to the Cleveland Aquarium. Their work will be displayed on the ACS website. Congrats to our Fairport all-stars!



A Celebration of Writers



Power of the Pen Team: Ms. Murphey called up each member of the Power of the Pen team and presented their certificates of participation at the Shaker Heights Middle School Pen Ohio Regional Tournament..

7th Grade Team Members

- Aaliyah Alston*
- Gabbie Carlson*
- Gabe Lawson
- Tabby Lette
- Lydia Nye
- Mikaela Sandstrom*
- Adara Tharp

8th Grade Team Members

- Morgan Braemer
- Sam Collins
- Giovanni Coraretti
- Olivia Hoge*
- AJ Pohto
- Josh Safick

*Denotes state qualifier

Fairport Harbor Schools

POWER OF THE PEN

FOUR STATE QUALIFIERS ANNOUNCED

APRIL 23RD 2018!

Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the *Power of the Pen* Tournament! Four of our amazing scholars qualified for the state level and will compete at the College of Wooster May 24th and 25th.

Best Of Luck!!

Aaliyah Alston, Gabbie Carlson, Olivia Hoge and Mikaela Sandstrom

www.fhevs.org

For more information about our Power of the Pen Team, please visit our school website [here](#).

The Power of the Pen Team and Coaches would sincerely like to thank our sponsors for our State Tournament.

Our four state qualifiers traveled to the College of Wooster to compete at the PenOhio Tournament on May 24-25, 2018. Thank you so much for your financial support!

- Fairport Harbor Board of Education
- Fairport Mardi Gras Committee
- Fairport Hungarian Culture Club



A Celebration of Writers



Thank you to Fairport VFW's Janet Merrick who came to present the VFW Patriotic Art Awards.



Mrs. Janet Merrick has presented awards for several years now. She came on May 5, 2018 to Harding High School to present awards for the **VFW Patriotic Art Contest!** Congrats to Amelia Kapostasy on winning first place!! Pictured here with Amelia and Mrs. Merrick are the submissions who placed in the top four. They belong to Olivia Hulett, Brandy Ornelas, and Kaitlin Kilpatrick. Amelia's art is not pictured because it has been sent on to the state for judging. Good luck Amelia! Well done Harding High art students! Special thanks to Mrs. Luoma for sponsoring this contest!

- Runner Up: Kaitlin Kilpatrick
- 3rd place: Olivia Hulett
- 2nd place: Brandy Ornelas
- 1st place: Amelia Kapostasy



A Celebration of Writers

Jayden Alston is a sophomore at Fairport Harding High School. He is known by his fellow peers as being awesome at football and having some of the best hair in the school. Jay loves tacos and working out. When it comes to poetry, Jay loves how the words fit together. His peers said “I like this one because it deals with family and sticking together. I also like this one because the last line reminds me of having such a good life.” Jayden’s poem is titled “A Lion’s Patience.”

A Lion’s Patience

**A lion waiting all day,
Waiting to stalk his prey
He’s going to slay
anything that walks his way .
He’s patient for food to come his way.
As it does everyday.**

**Patience is part of the pride,
He leads with his bride
With all his family members side by side.
He runs after his prey each step a long stride
This life is one heck of ride**



A Celebration of Writers



Logan Barnum is a junior at Fairport Harding High School. He enjoys playing Xbox's Fallout 3 and writing short stories. He is currently co-writing a novel with Halona White about an alien race in a futuristic society. In regards to his poem, his peers said "It compared patience to a tiny seed from the rose and used amazing similes."

Everything Grows

A seed can grow into a rose.
You don't know until you grow
It's like writing a newspaper or a book
It takes time to get that hook.

It's like watching paint dry.
You can't always see it with your eye.
But if you decide to stick around
Then you might get some rebound



A Celebration of Writers

Gabby Palmer is currently a sophomore. She is part of the band and drama department. In the Spring musical, she played Mrs. Addams. She was a previous Fair Poet winner, winning first place in the Fall of 2016. Her peers said that her poem “was extremely deep. And it was very well written.” Gabby’s poem is titled “Forbearance of My Windowsill.”

Forbearance of My Windowsill?

Once upon a time, and a little bit later
I realized I was falsely accused
I can’t say my existence has been any greater
As my days here repeat, I become more confused

In this damp cell, I continue to rot
Along with the ceiling and the walls.
Years in these chains, so much torture they’ve brought
I’ve been no where but here, not even the halls.

The gray of these walls is straining to my eyes
These chains are becoming part of me
They restrict my movement yet also my cries
I am trapped here, for me, nothing is free

Yet out my barred window, my hope still remains
In the form of a bright and gentle power
It sits happy and still, no sight of any strains
My everlasting hope lies in but a flower

It’s lovely crimson petals still shine like the sun
The sun that is restricted to my eye
This lovely flower is what prevents me to run
If I could, that is, it’s impossible to try

Though everyday I long to revisit the outside
To soak under the brightly shining light
I wish to break free of these chains, to have a limitless stride
But most of all to see my flower up close shining bright

I’ve been patiently waiting to emerge from this cell
Perhaps one shall recall of my absence
However, this flower resting upon the windowsill
Just sways gently with overwhelming patience



A Celebration of Writers

Page 2 - Forbearance or My Windowsill?

She has nothing but dark through the hours of the night
Yet she is calm, for the sun will everyday rise
Days without rain can be a torturing blight
But all the while she is serene, as she watches the skies

I'm jealous of my flower to say the very least
Though that is hard to explain it so clearly
The tolerance it has, as it awaits my release
Waiting for my freedom so dearly

I try to be calm like my flower so still
But my patience wears thin by the hour
I long to break through this cursed windowsill
To be together at last with my flower

Until that day comes, I'll keep my composure
Never to wish on the clock
I shall return to my flower with a new sense of closure-
Wait... Did my door just... Unlock?



A Celebration of Writers

Hailey Radar is a sophomore. One fellow skipper said they learned that if you see a stranger you should get to know them better and see if you have some stuff in common with that person before judging them. Hailey's poem is titled: "It Is a Flower."

It is a Flower

I have a story that needs to be told.
It all started when I was 7 years old.

There was a man just happened to get off his bus
At the same my school dropped us off at the corner of Courage Street.
I am telling you the truth, I am not talking jive
And I do not want to repeat

He peaked my curiosity because he was so quaint.
You know what I mean, he was like a stone statue of a saint.

I ran up to him and asked, "May I walk with you?"
His answer came with a nod and a crooked smile
Then he said "Well child do you think you can
Walk a mile?"

We began our one mile walk.
We did the usual small talk,
You know, what is your name, where do you live
And how old are you?"
I asked him the same question too.

At last we reached the end of the mile.
I could hardly believe what was before my eyes
All that I could do at that moment was to smile.

I finally found my voice "WOW, what do you call this
"This is my garden of patience." "Please I asked how do you do this? "Take a seat upon this
rock and I will tell you of what I know."
First, some gardens patience will never grow.
Second, you need to master some skills, and it don't come easy
It is a game of give and take and it will not be breezy.



A Celebration of Writers

Page 2 - "It Is a Flower"

This is my patience garden.
I am the one who used persistence, perseverance
To Master the skill and I will never ask for a pardon.

I am sixteen now.
My Nana asked me, "Are you ready to
Start your garden?" So I took the item from her
Hand ever so gentle, smiled a crooked smile so
She would not notice my raised brow.

"Sure Nana I will teach to text."
This will be the test of all tests for my garden,
It is not just her age, it is because she has arms and hands
Are like that of T-REX.



A Celebration of Writers

Kayla Sharpe is a sophomore at Fairport Harding High School. She participates in the marching band. She enjoys dancing in her free time at the Fairport Dance Academy. Her favorite type of dance is modern and lyrical, and her poem is about dancing! In regards to her poem, her peers said “I could personally connect with it. It was very creative and I enjoyed the thought behind it.” Kayla’s poem is called “Just Takes Time.”

Just Takes Time

Everything we do takes time.
The learning, the flexibility, gaining pride,
and perfecting each and every move.
We are dancers.

While we learn,
we get frustrated because we can't get it.
Teachers throwing new choreography at you for our performance,
stressing you out.
It just takes time.

Flexibility, we work towards it.
It doesn't come naturally, sadly.
We go through pain, a lot of pain.
With no pain, there's no gain.
It just takes time, a lot of time.

We try our hardest to perfect everything.
Right after we learn our dances we practice non-stop.
Although, we soon start to get angry,
because we can't perfect a move or series of moves.
It just takes time.

After all the pain, tears, and troubles
we soon gain pride in ourselves
It's a good feeling to have, but that does not come naturally,
we pushed and worked for it.
We are now performance ready,
and all it took was some time.



A Celebration of Writers



Lydia Shaw has been on stage before as a Fair Poet finalist. She is a sophomore at Harding High School. In regards to her poem, her peers said that “I liked this one because it makes you focus on everyday life. Also to use your life to the fullest”. In addition to being a poet, Lydia dances and cheers for the varsity football team. Lydia’s poem is titled “Lesson Learned.”

Lesson Learned

It’s used everyday.

At school, at work, at home and in public.

But, it’s hard to come by.

People say with experience you master

But in my eyes you never learn.

You snap once, lesson “learned”

You snap twice, lesson “learned”

You snap three times, patience isn’t there.

Why isn’t it there?



A Celebration of Writers



Mr. Hank Werronen, our Fair Poet Sponsor and Fairport Harding Graduate of 1961, presented his poem, and awarded some honorable mentions.

LET US GO THEN, YOU AND ME

**For Fair Poets
Hank Werronen
April 2018**

**Let us go then, you and me
Along a path we cannot see**

**Let us look then, you and me
Not knowing yet our destiny**

**Let us listen then, you and me
And write some words of poetry**

**Let us laugh then, you and me
Discovering unknowns always there**

**Let us learn then, you and me
At every turn, a pure wind rises**

**Let us feel then, you and me
That we belong to one another.**



A Celebration of Writers

Congratulations to Adara Tharp - Middle School Honorable Mention - Awarded by Hank Werronen -
Adara won \$50.00 Honorable Mention Check and a book of poetry by Wallace Stevens donated by Hank Werronen.

A Text to Die For

Just got his driving licence, driving down the road

Almost to the Fairport football game

From the cup holder, he hears a noise

A text from his best friend showed

He puts in his passcode as a stop sign came

Not realizing that another car soon destroys

As the car hit like a meteor to earth, he felt owed

People on the street called the police as they saw a flame

Police remove the limp body, which no one enjoys

They found a phone held in the lifeless hand, an it glowed

The text that was there was such a shame

Something so stupid, people treat like a toy

And as the police saw the message log,

The text read, "do you want ketchup or mustard on your dog?"

Now, if only he had waited five more minutes,

To park his car and know his driving limits

He didn't check his phone during the driving test,

Why waste his life on a meaningless text?

He would still be alive,

If only he didn't text and drive,

If only he had waited.



A Celebration of Writers

Morgan Braemer - Excellence in Art and Poetry Award - Awarded by Hank Werronen - Morgan won art supplies and a gift card for more art supplies! A special thank you to Mrs. Luoma for picking up the supplies for the award.





A Celebration of Writers

Delaney Sherwood - Honorable Mention for Poetry and Health Award - Awarded by Hank Werronen -
Delaney won a \$50.00 Honorable Mention Check and a book on poetry called *One Toss of the Dice*.

Patience

Waiting for the future and forgetting about the past
Waiting for the sand to slip through the glass
Waiting for the flowers to bloom
Waiting for the moon to hang
Waiting for the snow to fly
Birds flying high
PATIENCE
Stay strong
every second
A drop of blood
Patience is what I learn
I wait and wait for my turn
Someone will make a cure one day
Always waiting for my diabetes to go away



A Celebration of Writers

Zoe Ferris - High School Honorable Mention - Awarded by Hank Werronen - \$50.00 Honorable Mention
Check and a book of poetry by Wallace Stevens, donated by Hank Werronen.

Difference

Patience can be taught,
or untaught,
a strong thought,
or maybe not.
Drive someone mad,
or dig good out of bad.
Train to wait,
outpass a great length,
or take it away,
and run in a blaze.
It defines the difference
between persistence
And hesitance
sanity
and insanity,
almost everything.
Patience either comes
at a price,
or it's priceless.
It can be silent
Or loud,
Crowded
Or alone,

For happiness
Or for sadness,
Bright enough
to burn,
Or cold enough
to freeze.
It's something to know
if you CAN'T
or you WON'T.
The difference
means
Everything.



A Celebration of Writers



FAIR POET RUNNER UPS for MIDDLE SCHOOL:

- RYAN CHIPPS
- LEWIN UHLIR

FAIR POET RUNNER UPS for HIGH SCHOOL:

- JAY ALSTON
- LOGAN BARNUM
- KAYLA SHARPE

Fair Poet MIDDLE SCHOOL WINNERS:

- Third Place : Middle School - Rachel Shaw - \$25
- Second Place : Middle School - Lex Patrick - \$50
- First Place : Middle School - Owen Meacham - \$100

Fair Poet HIGH SCHOOL WINNERS:

- Third Place : High School - Lydia Shaw - \$50
- Second Place : High School - Hailey Radar - \$100
- First Place : High School - Gabby Palmer - \$175

All Finalists received a book *The Collected Poems by Wallace Stevens*, donated by our Fair Poet Sponsor Mr. Hank Werronen.



Top Picture - Left to right: Ryan Chipps, Hank Werronen, Owen Meacham, Lexington Patrick, Lewin Uhlir, Rachel Shaw

Bottom Picture - Left to Right: Jay Alston, Hank Werronen, Logan Barnum, Gabby Palmer, Hailey Radar, Kayla Sharpe, Lydia Shaw



A Celebration of Writers

Thank You

Fair Poet Contest Sponsor: Hank Werronen, Class of 1961

*Fair Poet Contest Readers:
Mr. Colbert, Mr. Cardina, Mr. Luster*

*Fair Poet Contest Judges:
Joe Fath, Meghan Carlson, Sarah Toivonen*

*Fair Poet Judge Coordinator:
Cathy Norman*

*VFW Art Contest Sponsors:
Janet Merrick, Steve Kalal, Dan Sherwood*

*Board Office Secretaries:
Cindi Clair and Natalie Rock*

*Program and Certificates:
Mrs. Prosser & Ms. Murphey*

*Sound, Lights, Video:
Mr. Rodney Kozar
Instructional Media Technology Students
at Auburn Career Center
Mr. Ruzin, and Bre Cremeans*

Teachers and Staff of Harding High School

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Fairport Harbor Exempted Village Schools
Professional Learning Community.*