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Robert Frost

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[Robert Frost Farm](#)

Robert Frost Youth Poet Program Winners Announced

UNH co-sponsors annual statewide contest

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EDITORS: The winning poems from each county are included for publication.

DURHAM, N.H. -- Meg Ficarra, fourth-grade student in Tracie Carpenter's class at the Conant School in Concord, has been named the 2005 Robert Frost Youth Poet for the state of New Hampshire. Ficarra's poem was selected from 600 entries in the annual contest sponsored by the Trustees of the Robert Frost Homestead, Dimond Library at the University of New Hampshire, and the state Division of Parks and Recreation.

Ficarra's poem, titled "Stream":

Flowing blue lakes
Turn from crystal snowflakes.
Rushing clear white streams
Shoot from blackened rocktop beams.
Along the watery edge
Water rushes off the pinetop ledge.
All the water comes to cling
To New Hampshire's new Spring.

The contest was open to all New Hampshire fourth graders who submitted poems on the theme of "Spring in New Hampshire." In addition to the statewide winner, a youth poet is chosen for each of the state's counties, and runners-up are also selected. The winners were honored at the Robert Frost Farm in Derry earlier this month.

Claudia Morner, UNH librarian, and David Watters, UNH professor of English and trustees vice chair, announced that the poems submitted will be kept in a permanent archive at the university, which houses a distinguished collection of Robert Frost's works. Ian Veitenheimer and other members of the faculty at Pinkerton Academy, where Robert Frost taught, served as contest judges.

The Robert Frost Youth Poet Program was established to foster the writing of poetry by New Hampshire children. In his years at the Derry Farm, 1900-1910, Frost wrote some of his best-known poems, such as "Mending Wall," "The Pasture," "Ghost House," and "Hyla Brook." He encouraged his own children, who were schooled at home, and his students at Pinkerton Academy to write poetry. The contest keeps Frost's legacy alive and recognizes the talents of

New Hampshire school children.

The Robert Frost Youth Poet Program is supported by funds from the Finisterre Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation. For further information, call David Watters at (603) 862-3983 or dhw@cisunix.unh.edu.

Following is a list of winners from each county:

Belknap County:

Carley Short, New Hampton Community School
Honorable Mention: James McKinzie, Woodland Heights School

Carroll County:

No entries this year

Cheshire County:

Alexis Andrus, Chesterfield Elementary School
Honorable Mention: Leigh Chickering, Chesterfield Elementary School

Coos County:

Emily Wood, Lancaster School
Honorable Mention: Grace Ezyk, Lancaster School

Grafton County:

Helen Tosteson, Lyme Elementary School
Honorable Mention: Alex Brown, Bernice A. Roy Elementary School

Hillsborough County:

Emma MacDonald, Hollis Upper Elementary School
Honorable Mention: Shannon Kerrigan, Griffin Memorial School

Merrimack County:

Sarah Smith, Conant School
Honorable Mention: Julia Finch, Conant School

Rockingham County:

Laura Somogie, Barnard School
Honorable Mention: Tatiana McNeal, Hampstead Academy

Strafford County:

Ali Xenos, Rollinsford Grade School
Honorable Mention: Karyssa Leigh Bickford, Barrington Elementary School

Sullivan County:

Sarah Berman, Plainfield School
Honorable Mention: Daniel Huot, Towle School

Robert Frost Youth Poet winners

Belknap County Poet

Carley Short

Teacher: Mrs. Turk

New Hampton Community School

New Hampshire

The purple finch sails the
 Air back to its nest full of
 Newly hatched chicks. The water
 Fall roars as it crashes down.
 Brook trout swim in streams
 Over flowed with all the
 April rain. Red spotted newts
 Swim in small bodies of
 Water. Buds sprout from
 Trees, graceful karner blue butterflies
 Flutter about lilac to lilac.
 Mother bears climb from
 Their dens with curious cubs
 Behind them. Young white tailed
 Deer leap about. Lady bugs crawl up
 My window. Soft breezes carry
 Sweet aromas while swaying skinny
 White birch trees.

Belknap County Honorable Mention**James McKinzie**

Teacher: Ms. Douglas
 Woodland Heights School

Spring In New Hampshire

Spring is here!
 The flowers,
 Smell fresh,
 The trees smell like green grass,
 The fresh air is crisp like a chip,
 There are butterflies fluttering,
 Like pollen,
 Floating in the sky,
 Flies are buzzing around,
 Like planes in the sky,
 The trees,
 Are budding,
 Like fresh,
 Spring flowers.
 The sun is brighter,
 Like a brand new light bulb,
 Worms
 Are wiggling in the earth below us.
 Slugs are squirming,
 Making trails in the dirt.
 Don't put salt on this poor creature,
 Snails are crawling,

With shells of armor.
 And the Spring,
 Is the best,
 There is.

Cheshire County Poet

Alexis Andrus

Teacher: Ms. Laurel Powell
 Chesterfield Elementary School

Old Man Granite

Birch are sitting near, trout jumping high,
 Old Man Granite watching.
 Zillions of zinnias laughing at jokes.
 The wind whispers and flitty finches sing their song.
 Old Man Granite quietly saying, "New Hampshire, New Hampshire."
 Old Man Granite tripped and fell,
 And now sits there waiting, waiting for life again.

Cheshire County Honorable Mention

Leigh Chickering

Teacher: Ms. Darlene Dunn
 Chesterfield Elementary School

Peaceful Nature

Tulip swaying in the wind. Strawberry, banana,
 Tangerine tulip waking up tired but happy to
 See magnificent day.

Bright beautiful sunset singing softly in the
 Distance. The tropical sunset dancing in the breeze.

Lime green mountains tall, handsome and
 Mighty watching from far away.

Shadow green soft crowded sleeping grass
 Shivering in the swirling air.

Coos County Poet

Emily Wood

Teacher: Ms. Isabelle Kleinschradt
 Lancaster School

The Lovely Things That Happen In Spring

Every year Spring comes around,
 Though many people can't hear
 The wind's sound.

The bugs come around and help
 The flowers bloom,
 The flowers seem to be awakening
 From their tomb.

There are so many showers in
 April and May,
 They would be nice on a hot
 Summer day.

When spring comes, the snow
 Starts to melt away,
 And soon birds will have eggs
 To lay.

Every year spring comes around,
 Though many people can't hear the
 Wind's sound.

Coos County Honorable Mention

Grace Ezyk

Teacher: Ms. Amy Hook
 Lancaster School

A Little Taste of Spring

The ground is no longer white
 With snow,
 The cold harsh wind no longer
 Blows.
 For it is Spring in New Hampshire,
 How do we know?
 Because the velvet petals of
 Wild flowers are in bloom,
 And letting out such fragrant fumes.
 The birds are singing so beautifully,
 Their voices make me never want to
 flee.
 Spring here is so beautiful to see,
 I hope you like it as much as me.

Grafton County Poet

Helen Tosteson

Teacher: Ms. Ragonese
 Lyme Elementary School

A graceful doe nudges its unsure newborn
 To enter the blooming world.

The spotted newborn sees

The New Hampshire world
Coming to life through its soft brown eyes.

A laughing brook rolls along,
Inviting any passerby

The sunshine glows
With new life,
And wonder.

Peeper songs ring again and again,
Echoing

Flower buds peep out shyly
From the grass.

The newborn now bounds
Into the fresh unique world
With no more nudges—

It's Spring!

**Grafton County Honorable Mention
Alex Brown**

Teacher: Ms. Alice Eberhardt
Bernice A. Roy Elementary School

A Day on the Porch

The sun warms my back,
As the shade cools me.
At the same time
The taste of humid air
In my mouth
Is drying my throat.
The smell of pine wood
Fills my nose.
Cars race by,
On the road.
A splash fills my ears
And a beetle
Crawls lightly across a leaf.
The sounds of children
Come to my ears
They sound like birds
Chirping on a summer day.
It feels like Spring
Is here at last.

**Hillsborough County Poet
Emma MacDonald**

Teacher: Ms. Shailagh Curry
Hollis Upper Elementary School

Signs of Spring

I feel the wind blowing gently
Across my face and chilling my heels
And ankles.

I hear the wind whistling quietly,
Wind chimes singing their own soft,
Sweet melody, birds chirping sweet tunes
And the chipmunks scurrying and chatting
To each other.

I see early flowers blooming, the trees
Swaying in the gentle breeze, my swingset,
The last mounds of snow melting and the
Birds, chipmunks and squirrels feeding at
The bird feeders.

I smell the pine tree's needles and the
Flower's buds beautiful fragrance.

And right now I can almost taste that
Delicious, gooey, golden-brown, sticky
Sensation of home-made Maple Syrup.

Hillsborough County Honorable Mention

Shannon Kerrigan

Teacher: Mrs. Moesel
Griffin Memorial School

A Walk Through Nature

As I walk I see
Tall lush green trees
As strong as soldiers.

Small and large brooks
Run through the woods
And bathe the ground.

Vibrantly colored flowers
Fill the air
With sweet lavender.

Deer and sparrows
Dance around the trees
And pick off the crisp leaves.

I glance at the bumblebees

And ladybugs working hard
Landing on bushes and twigs.

Moss lays
Up and down the trees
Like a blanket.

The tranquility and grace
Is so peaceful
In the woods

The woods is the treasure of my backyard.

Merrimack County Poet

Sarah Smith

Teacher: Mrs. Paula Bonner
Conant School

Spring

Yellow daffodils stretch out their petals
As if to grab the sky
Violet lilacs sway gently
In the refresing breeze

White clouds poof like marshmallows
Drifting past the horizon
Crystal clear breezes
Swirl around me like a warm blanket

Karner Blues plan their dainty feet
On maple tree's maroon leaves
Black flies land on tan skin
Sucking red juicy blood

Black bears lift their sleepy heads
Prowling around for a tasty meal
White-tailed fawns are born
Learning how to become deer.

Merrimack County Honorable Mention

Julia Finch

Teacher: Ms. Bonnie Noyes
Conant School

Spring

Spring is here now
And now to stay
Winter time
Has gone away

Monarchs flutter
Through the air
Waking up
Is a black bear

Red tailed hawks
Soar in the breeze
A cardinal has built
A nest in the trees

Red tulips
Have bud
There now is
A puddle of mud

Animals come out
Of hibernation
And birds come back
From migration

Through the wood a
White tailed deer leaps
Behind a tree
A coyote creeps

In a marsh
A turtle walks
Up in the sky
A bluejay squaks

Spring is lovely
Day and night
My favorite season
Is here all right

Rockingham County Poet
Laura Somogie
Teacher: Ms. Beverly Peeke
Barnard School

On to Nature's Door

Can you feel the spring's light breeze,
That sweeps away the winter's freeze,
The sky's so sweet, yet lays so still,
As raindrops tap my window sill.

Flowers bloom and grow and praise,
As the sun behind the cloud seems to raise.
Snowy white fields turn to green,
Bugs so mindless yet so keen.

Various animals awake from their sleep,
 And another year gone by with memories to keep.
 Spring is here, winter's gone,
 From dawn to dusk, and dusk to dawn.

Rockingham County Honorable Mention

Tatiana McNeal

Teacher: Ms. Sue Pitman
 Hampstead Academy

There's A Place Called New Hampshire

There's a place called New Hampshire
 Where the flowers like to bloom
 Pink and yellow colors
 The birds like to zoom
 There's a place called New Hampshire
 Where the deer like to be
 They come out every Spring
 Oh what a sight to see
 There's a place called New Hampshire
 Where the bunnies like to hop
 They come out of their holes
 And eat all the crops
 There's a place called New Hampshire
 Where the stars like to shine
 They shine so bright
 The starry night is fine

Strafford County Poet

Ali Xenos

Teacher: Ms. Aimee Krauss
 Rollinsford Grade School

Spring

Butterflies everywhere
 Fluttering around

Rain drops everywhere
 Plopping on the ground

Blades on the grass
 Turning bright green

Goodbye windows
 Hello screens

The sun gets brighter
 Every day

And makes us more happy
Because we have longer to play

I'm so glad
Spring is here

I can't wait
Because summer is near!!

Strafford County Honorable Mention

Karyssa Leigh Bickford

Teacher: Ms. Arabian
Barrington Elementary School

Beautiful New Hampshire

In the morn, I lay awake,
In the sun, for goodness sake.
As I lay soft in bed,
The sun is beating on my head.

I get up, the cool, slim breeze,
Keeps on blowing all over me.
So then I think, IT'S SPRING! IT'S SPRING!
The flowers are blooming and everything.

I asked someone "Are you going to school today?"
Knowing that I'll have an awesome day.

Like it's better to see clear, than in a blur
It's nice to wake up in Beautiful New Hampshire.

Sullivan County Poet

Sarah Berman

Teacher: Ms. Jonni Nichols
Plainfield School

Spring in New Hampshire

Spring in New Hampshire
Loud Spring Showers
Time to laugh and play all day

Spring in New Hampshire
Chicks are born
Flowers bloom

Spring in New Hampshire
Birds do the wake up call
Kids grown another inch tall

Spring in New Hampshire
Bubbling creeks
Shedding of winter clothes

Sullivan County Honorable Mention

Daniel Huot

Teacher: Mrs. Heineman
Towle School

The Best Time of Year

In the spring,
When the weather's clear,
Baseball's here.

Sliding home
In muddy dirt,
 Sometimes
It can hurt.
Getting tagged out,
Just makes you want to pout.

Getting a home run,
In the bright yellow sun,
Just get on base,
That's all I care
 Even if
It's just by a hair.

In the spring
When the days are clear,
Baseball is the best
 I hear.