



2025-2026 NCDA POETRY & ART CONTEST ENTRY FORM

SECTION 1 OF 12:

Welcome to the **2025–2026 NCDA Poetry & Art Contest!**

Theme: The Evolution of Work: Careers in the Past, Present, and Future

Hosted by: The National Career Development Association (NCDA)

We're thrilled to have you participate in this exciting National Initiative celebrating *career development, creativity, and self-expression*.

Please print and manually complete this Entry Form in full. Scan and email the completed Entry Form, submitting as an attachment, along with your poem or artwork file(s), to your specific State Coordinator. If you need additional information regarding your designated State Coordinator, please feel free to contact Kimberly Carothers, Chair, NCDA National Career Development Month Committee, at kimberlycarothers8@gmail.com.

Your submission helps showcase the creativity and career exploration happening in schools, organizations, and communities across the nation!

Before you begin, please note:

- Each participant may submit **only one** poem or artwork entry.
- Entries must align with the **2025–2026 theme:** *The Evolution of Work: Careers in the Past, Present, and Future*
- Ensure that all information is **accurate and complete** to avoid disqualification.
- File types accepted: PDF, JPEG, PNG, or Word Document.

We can't wait to see your creativity shine!

SECTION 2 OF 12: CONTEST PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Please complete this section with the contest participant's information as it should appear in contest records and recognition materials. Be sure all details are accurate and legible.

Contest Participant Full Name (First & Last):

Contest Participant Full Address:

Contest Participant Phone Number:

Email Address:

Grade Level (If Applicable):

School Name or Organization (If Applicable):

SECTION 3 OF 12: PARENTAL/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Please provide the contact information for a parent or legal guardian. This information is required for communication and consent regarding the participant's entry.

Parent/Guardian Name (If Applicable and under age of 18):

Parent/Guardian Phone Number (If Applicable):

Parent/Guardian Email Address: (If Applicable):

SECTION 4 OF 12: CATEGORY OF ENTRY

Please select your contest category.

- ☐ Elementary School (Grades K-2)
- ☐ Intermediate School (Grades 3-5)
- ☐ Middle/Junior High School (Grades 6-8)
- ☐ Senior High School (Grades 9-12)
- ☐ Adult Student (College, University, or Training Program)
- ☐ Open Adult (Non-Student Category)
- ☐ Other:

SECTION 5 OF 12: SCHOOL/ORGANIZATION CONTACT (IF APPLICABLE)

Please complete this section if entries are being submitted by a school or organization liaison on behalf of a student or contest participant.

School/Organization Name/Address: (If Applicable)

Liaison/Key Contact Name: (If Applicable)

Liaison Position/Title: (If Applicable)

Liaison/Key Contact Phone Number (If Applicable):

Liaison/Key Contact Email Address (If Applicable):

SECTION 6 OF 12: TYPE OF SUBMISSION

Please indicate your entry type.

☐ Poetry

☐ Art – Category 1

☐ Art – Category 2

SECTION 7 OF 12: ENTRY SUBMISSION

Please note: Your Poetry or Artwork Submission and this Entry Form must be emailed as attachments to the State Coordinator for your designated state. Both the completed Entry Form and your submission must be included when you email your State Coordinator. If you need additional information regarding your designated State Coordinator, please feel free to reach out to Kimberly Carothers, Chair, NCDA National Career Development Month Committee, at kimberlycarothers8@gmail.com

SECTION 8 OF 12: STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

This section confirms that the submitted poem or artwork is the participant's own original creation. Additionally, if submitting under Poetry & Art - Category 2, the responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is permitted. Participants must include the name of any AI tool used (e.g., ChatGPT, CoPilot, Midjourney, etc.) and a brief sample of the prompt(s) that helped create or edit the work. Example disclosure: "This poem was edited for structure and flow after generation to better align with the author's intended message and emotion using ChatGPT." Submissions that do not include required AI disclosure may be disqualified.

Please confirm that this submission is your own original work. If submitted in Poetry & Art Category 2, you acknowledge that you have disclosed any Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools used (e.g., ChatGPT, CoPilot, Midjourney) and provided a brief sample of the prompt(s) used. You also grant permission for your submission to be displayed, published, or shared by NCDA for educational and promotional purposes.

☐ Yes — I confirm that this submission is my original work. If submitted in Poetry & Art - Category 2, I have disclosed any Artificial Intelligence (AI) tool(s) used and provided a brief sample of the prompt(s). I also grant permission for NCDA to display, publish, or share my submission for educational and promotional purposes.

☐ No — I do not confirm the above statement.

SECTION 9 OF 12: PHOTO/MEDIA RELEASE CONSENT

This section explains how your name, photo, and creative work may be used by NCDA. Please review before indicating whether you grant permission for NCDA to share your information and submission in contest-related publications, promotional materials, or social media.

Do you grant permission for the National Career Development Association (NCDA) to use your name, photo, and submission in publications, promotional materials, and social media related to the Poetry & Art Contest?

☐ Yes, I grant permission.

☐ No, I do not grant permission.

SECTION 10 OF 12: REFLECTION PROMPT (OPTIONAL, BUT ENCOURAGED)

Tell us about your inspiration!

What does this year's theme, "The Evolution of Work: Careers in the Past, Present, and Future" mean to you? How does your poem or artwork express your career dreams or journey?

SECTION 11 OF 12: FINAL REVIEW AND SUBMISSION

Please take a moment to review all your responses before submitting. Once you have attached both your Submission and the Entry Form and emailed to your State Coordinator, your entry will be officially received and reviewed by your State Coordinator.

For questions, please contact your State Contest Coordinator via email. **If you need additional information regarding your designated State Coordinator, please feel free to reach out to Kimberly Carothers, Chair, NCDA National Career Development Month Committee, at kimberlycarothers8@gmail.com**

SECTION 12 OF 12: FINAL REVIEW AND SUBMISSION

Thank you for submitting your Entry to the 2025-2026 NCDA Poetry & Art Contest! Your creativity and voice truly help inspire others to explore, dream, and grow. You will receive a Submission Confirmation Message from your State Coordinator soon. Keep creating, keep dreaming, and Thank You for being part of this National Celebration of Career Development and Creativity!