

Irving's NEA Big Read Presents

The Big Write

WELCOME TO AMERICA:

Share a Story

POETRY CONTEST

Into the Beautiful North

the

Big

Write

Irving's NEA Big Read

Theme

Write us a story in a poem about coming to America. Share experiences, feelings, and transitions on coming to a new culture.

Contest Rules and Guidelines

- The Big Write Poetry Contest is open to writers of all ages.
- The contest begins Sept. 1, 2016, and all entries must be submitted by Monday, Sept. 26 to the Irving Public Library. Students may submit entries to their school librarian.
- Entries will be judged by theme, originality, and how well it blends with the subject matter of this year's NEA Big Read selection *Into the Beautiful North* by Luis Alberto Urrea.
- All poetry submitted must be original, legible and suitable for publication. No licensed/copyrighted/trademarked work will be accepted.
- Poems must be submitted in the space supplied on the opposite side of these guidelines. Additional pages may be attached.
- Your poem becomes property of the Irving Public Library. It will not be returned to the author.
- Each participant must sign the entry form granting the library permission to use name and poetry. The poems may be reproduced and published at the will of the library. If under the age of 18, participants must have entry forms signed by a parent/guardian.

Winning poems will be selected in the following categories:

- 1st to 2nd grade
- 3rd to 5th grade
- 6th to 8th grade
- 9th to 12th grade
- Adult

Winners will be announced on Wednesday, Oct. 5 at the Irving Arts Center at the author talk/reception for special guest Luis Alberto Urrea. Prizes will be awarded to first (\$100), second (\$75), and third place (\$50) winners in each category.

All decisions are final.

NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.





THE BIG WRITE SUBMISSION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____
(if applicable)

Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____
(if entrant is under 18)

Please complete a submission form for each entry. Each participant must sign the entry form granting the library permission to use name and poetry in library publications, on the library website and in other formats.

Poem Title: _____

Need more space? You may attach additional pages.

Please return your submission to one of the following Irving Public Library locations by Sept. 26.

South Irving Library, 601 Schulze Drive
West Irving Library, 4444 W. Rochelle Road

Valley Ranch Library, 401 Cimarron Trail
East Branch Library, 440 S. Nursery Road

Events Hotline: (972) 721-4612 www.cityofirving.org/library