



# Mary Livermore Library



## Dean Elinor F. Foster Poetry/Short Prose Contest Guidelines

This contest has been jointly sponsored by the Friends of the Library of The University of North Carolina at Pembroke and the Kiwanis of Robeson-Lumberton, with the latter organization generously providing the funding for the prizes for the high school students.

1. The entries must be 500 words or less and must be typed. All words, excluding the title, will count toward the total. **Any entry exceeding the limit will not be considered.** Any incomplete entry form will result in the elimination of the accompanying entry.
2. The entries must be original and unpublished.
3. One entry per person will be accepted and an entry form must accompany the entry.
4. All entries will be blind-judged, so only the title should appear on the submission. The judges' decisions will be final. **Any copies of the poetry/prose entry with the author's name on the piece or contained within the piece will not be considered.** The author's name should appear on the entry form only.
5. There are three categories:  
UNCP students,  
Area high school students,  
General public, must be 18 years of age or older.
6. Cash prizes will be awarded in each category:  
\$250 for first place,  
\$150 for second place,  
\$100 for third place.  
**\*In the event of a tie, the judges will make a tie-breaking decision. The judges' decisions are final.**
7. Each writer of an award-winning entry will be invited to read the piece at a program during National Library Week. The award-winning entries may be published in *Library Lines*.  
**Submission of an entry grants permission to publish the entry in the newsletter.**
8. **Deadline for submission of the entry with an application is February 28, 2018.** Any entries postmarked, if mailing, after this date will not be accepted.
9. Submitting Entries.  
Entries can be submitted via the Web at <http://www.uncp.edu/node/115183> or click on the link from the Library's home page. Be sure to upload your entry with the application form. Entries e-mailed or submitted must be in Microsoft Word format. Entries must be submitted before midnight on the deadline date. Entry form must be submitted with the application. Electronic versions are available on the Library's website: <http://www.uncp.edu/academics/library/>. Entries also can be e-mailed to **Anne Coleman** or **Christopher Bowyer**

10. Mailing Address	Contact information
Poetry/Short Prose Contest The University of North Carolina at Pembroke Mary Livermore Library P.O. Box 1510 Pembroke, NC 28372-1510	Anne Coleman 910.521.6837 <a href="mailto:anne.coleman@uncp.edu">anne.coleman@uncp.edu</a>  Christopher Bowyer 910.521.6483 <a href="mailto:christopher.bowyer@uncp.edu">christopher.bowyer@uncp.edu</a>

## Dean Elinor F. Foster Poetry/Short Prose Contest

The Poetry/Short Prose Contest is named in honor of the former Dean of the Mary Livermore Library, **Dr. Elinor F. Foster**. This contest attracts entries from across the region in three different categories: UNCP students, regional high school students, and the general public.

The Friends of the Library and the Kiwanis of Robeson-Lumberton, with the latter organization generously providing the funding for the prizes for the high school students, usually provide the prizes for the different categories. First place winners will receive \$250; second place, \$150; and third place, \$100. (In the case of a tie, the prize money may be divided.)

**The deadline for submission of entries this year is Wednesday, February 28, 2018.**

This year's entries will be accepted electronically. The link to the entry form can be accessed from the Library's website: <http://www.uncp.edu/academics/library>.

The forms can be downloaded from the Library's website, filled out, and attached with the contestant's entry.

Winners will be invited to read their winning pieces on Wednesday, April 11, 2018, during National Library Week.

Once judged, the potentially winning entries will be checked to see if they were **plagiarized**, if the judges have not already disqualified them. Copying something you found in a print publication, on the Internet, or from Facebook will disqualify your winning entry. If you slightly modify an e-mail that someone sent you, the entry will be disqualified. Remember that plagiarism is theft of another's words or ideas. At the University level, it can be an Honor Code violation.

### Some Frequently Asked Questions about the Contest

<b>You say to not put my name on the entry. If I don't, how will you know I won?</b>	<i>The form you send in with your entry has your name and contact information on it, and we code your entry to match your form.</i>
<b>Alright, so I cannot sign my name. Can I work it into the story or poem or even make an acrostic?</b>	<i>If you include your name in any fashion, including dedicating it to your parents or other relatives, your entry will be disqualified.</i>
<b>What happens if I used 501 words? Do you really count the words? Does the title count?</b>	<i>Yes, we really count the words; with 501 words, your entry will be disqualified. The title doesn't count towards the 500 words.</i>
<b>Can I just write my entry neatly? What if I print it by hand?</b>	<i>Writing the entry by hand is against the rules and your entry will be disqualified. Use a computer or typewriter, please.</i>
<b>What if I have trouble with spelling? Will that disqualify my entry?</b>	<i>Misspelled words do not disqualify an entry, but the judges tend to react negatively to an entry with misspelled words and bad grammar.</i>
<b>What about the form? Do I have to fill it out completely?</b>	<i>Yes, we need to know in which category to place your entry and how to contact you.</i>
<b>The deadline for entries is February 28, 2018. What if there is inclement weather, and I can't get to the post office that day?</b>	<i>If the Public Schools of Robeson County close, we will accept entries postmarked on the day they next open. You may also send the forms and entries electronically</i>
<b>I have two great entries. Can I send in both of them?</b>	<i>If you do, the first one opened will be entered (if it qualifies) and the other one discarded.</i>
<b>What about pictures or graphics? Can I include them?</b>	<i>You may, but the judges will be getting photocopies. Sometimes graphics can obscure the words and that hurts the chances that the entry will win.</i>

**Application for Dean Elinor F. Foster Poetry/Short Prose Contest  
Deadline: February 28, 2018**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail (optional): \_\_\_\_\_  
Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Entry category (please check one):  
UNCP student \_\_\_\_\_  
Area high school student \_\_\_\_\_  
High School Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
County: \_\_\_\_\_  
High School Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

General public \_\_\_\_\_

Title of entry: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature  
**Your signature grants publication rights.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name (yours)

**Any Student under 18 must have the signature of parent or guardian.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian (if student under 18)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of Parent/Guardian (if student under 18)

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LIBRARY USE ONLY  
Date postmarked:  
Number of words:  
Number of entry:  
(comprised of category A-C and number)

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