

CCNY’S 54th ANNUAL
POETRY FESTIVAL
& HIGH SCHOOL
CONTEST

FRIDAY, MAY 1st, 2026
10:30AM TO 5:00 PM

1st Prize: \$400
2nd Prize: \$300
3rd Prize: \$200
Best Poem(s) in a Foreign Language: \$100
15 Honorable Mentions

- Include with entry:**
*Student name and mailing address
*Student phone number and e-mail
Name of school
Name and e-mail of teacher/advisor
*Must Include

Submit poems to:
Jennifer Buño / Alyssa Yankwitt
Poetry Outreach Center
The City College of New York
ccnypoetryoutreachcener@gmail.com

**LIMIT: 2 TYPED POEMS PER PERSON
MUST BE RECEIVED BY
FRIDAY, MARCH 6TH, 2026**

I am someone’s Asian baby
brought into this world by parents
who brought their lives and their families
to the New World –
new seeds sprouting
across the sea, but
the apple doesn't fall far from the tree.
I am someone’s Asian baby
wrapped in a blanket
the color of fall –
brilliant shades of red and yellow –
the moment I left the womb.
Bathed in golden sunlight,
red rosy cheeks,
they all cooed and giggled
as they looked down at me.

~from “A Baby with Blood the Color of Fall”
By Michelle Zhong
1st Place High School Winner, 2025
Hunter College High School

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