## COMMUNITY NEWS



In April of 2022, HSD students will take state tests. From increasing student confidence and attracting college recruiters to increasing property values and attracting new businesses, high test scores benefit the entire community. With that in mind, HSD is asking all stakeholders to get involved. Something as simple as telling children you see in the community to have a great day at school or asking them what they learned in class can be impactful.

## You can also help students increase test scores by:

 Spending time with students working on math and reading activities.

Encouraging students to attend school each day and achieve at high levels.

For more information on the impact of high test scores or how you can help students Be the Best on the Test, visit www.hazelwoodschools.org

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## St. Louis Poetry Center contest for student poets offers cash prizes

The St. Louis Poetry Center urges high school writers to enter its annual poetry contest by March 1. Cash prizes are given for first (\$225), second (\$125) and third place (\$75).

The Beverly Hopkins Memorial Poetry Contest will be judged by Srikantha Reddy, a poet and creative writing professor at the University of Chicago.

Winning poems will be posted on the **poetry center's website**. Last year's winners were Oviya Srihari (first place) from Ladue Horton Watkins High School, Grace Ruo (second place) from Hazelwood West High School, and Cedric Bruges (third place) from St. Louis Priory School.

The poetry center, founded in 1946, places teaching artists in schools, homeless shelters, and jails to lead writing workshops.

Here are the details about contest rules:

- Poets must be high school students living within 100 miles of St. Louis.
- Submit up to three poems (in Word or PDF).
- Poems already published in a high school publication can be submitted.
- Include the author's name (no pen name needed) on each poem.

• Enclose a separate document with the author's name, street address, phone number, email address, high school, grade, teacher's name (if he or she encouraged or assigned the poems), and poem titles.

• There is no entry fee.

Mail entries to: St. Louis Poetry Center

- High School Poetry Contest
- 3301 Washington Ave. 2D
- St. Louis, MO 63103

Contestants also can email entries to **Hopkins.contest@stlouispoetrycenter.org**. Attach the poems and author information as Word or PDF documents.