

Poetry of the Starry Skies of Tahoe Astro-Poetry Contest

2011 GAM Poetry Contest Reno, Nevada

April 17, 2011

Winners announced!

We had many beautiful poems submitted! Thanks to all the young aspiring poets for contributing, and thanks to the Fleischmann Planetarium, Celestron, and Astronomers without Borders for their commitment to promoting enthusiasm for the starry skies above through our poetry contest. All winners will be individually informed about their standing and how to obtain their prizes.

Thank you!

Tahoe Star Tours

“One Day Everyone Will Walk Out Under a Starry Sky They Understand”

The winning poems are:

- **In the K-6 category:**

1st Place:

Reilly McGwire

Jessie Beck Elementary

6th Grade

Ms. Moore

Journey from the Cosmos

Out in the deep, dark vastness of space, orbited by a thick cloud of dust,

To journey through this vacuum, to my spaceship I place my trust.

Vroom!*

To travel past the speed of light, my interstellar ship must fly,

Rocketing onward, traveling to fast too see, straight across the jet black sky.

Zzzzz-whoom!*

Straight into a cluster, my starship will zoom,

Shooting past a supernova, no air to here it boom.

Blam!

To a spiral galaxy, nowhere near the center,

A frozen cloud of ice rocks and dust, is the cloud I enter.

Kr-kkk-kk*

Past a few icy, frozen chunks, and four colorful gassy giants,
To a warm-ish rocky dwarf... this is universal science.
Prepare for landing! sssss *

Our journey has taken us from the dark depths of the cosmos to a little rocky planet somewhere in the universe. Do you know where this is? (Pause) to those of you who said Earth, good job!

* These are sound effects, even though there is no air in space and therefore, no sound.

Second Place:

Madeline McGwire

Jessie Beck Elementary
3rd Grade
Ms. Hoffman

Our Solar System

Our solar system
Has one big shining star
And has Earth, Venus, Jupiter,
Uranus and Mars.
We send people into space
But they do not go far,
We have not got them past the moon,
Yet we all say "We'll get there soon."

You might mistake a planet for a star one starry night
And I agree, it's hard to tell at their tremendous height.

Lots of our solar system remains undiscovered,
But still some people think that with our telescopes we're covered.
But that's not true.
Just between me and you
But just because of that, don't give up flat!
Because, who knows?
You might discover life on another planet's moon,
You might be the first person flying to Neptune,
Everything's just sitting there, let's get there very soon!

Do not give up! [Say this loudly, I know it does not rhyme]

Third Place:

Alexander Pneumonidis

Kastoria, Greece

I am 10 years old and I go to School fifth grade

The Stars in the Sky

The stars in the sky

have a bright color

With a rocket fly

on the sky

Travel to the Moon

and then to Mars

After traveling to Saturn

that there ice

I see a galaxy

That has form of a swordfish

- **In the 7 to 12 Category**

First Place:

Shannon Gallimore, Robert McQueen High School Grade:12 Teacher: Mrs. Tusio.

The Sky

The Sky is so beautiful and bright.
That it lights up at night.
You see stars so high.
It is such a magnificent sight.
Space
You can't change the race.
You can't change the pace.
All around you is the Universe,
That came first.
But the five prominent planets, like Mercury
Venus
Mars
Jupiter, and Saturn.
This is what we learned
Too bad the planet that we live on
Is not one of the top five brightest Knights!
Earth you know what it's worth.
Are we going to see a rebirth?
Of a planet that is like ours.
The Sky is so beautiful and bright.

Second place:

Casey Rodrigue
Homeschool
7th Grade
Melodi Rodrigue

MARS

It's red as blood
It's close –
Yet far,
It's small –
Yet big,
Is there water on it?
No one knows,
Is there life there?
No one knows
A lot is unknown about it.
Barely visible by the naked eye –
It's name is Mars.

Third Place:

Sadie Whiteley

Grade 11
Reno High School
Ms. Affinito

4 AM

Peering at the sky
More than the eye can see
Less than a hand may ever touch
Silk layers of lust pierced
By a silver needle altering
More than the human eye may process
Designs so intricate
Mind, going into orbit
Thoughts drift
Gravity is lost
Freedom at last