



## Poetry Contest

This year's theme is "African Americans and the Vote".

2020 marks the 150th anniversary of the Fifteenth Amendment (1870) which gave the right of black men to vote following the Civil War. It also marks the centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment and the culmination of the women's suffrage movement. The theme this year recognizes the struggle for voting rights among both black men and women throughout American history. The goal of this contest is to create a poem that reflects this year's theme.

### Directions

- Poems can be written in any poetic style
- Poems must be completely original
- Poems should not contain clichés (e.g. Roses are red)
- Poems should be titled
- Poems should be no more than 24 lines (not including title)
- Poems should avoid "texting" lingo
- Poems should use middle school appropriate language
- Poems should be turned into the School Counseling Office by 3:00 PM on 2/26/2020
- Students can work in groups
- Include name(s) and homeroom(s) on submission
- Prize: Lunch with a group of your friends from a local restaurant.