



Marshall Community FoundationSM

Working Together for Our Future

DOROTHY GODDARD CAPMAN POETRY AWARD

The Capman family is announcing a prize to be awarded for poetry at Marshall Middle Schools. Each contestant may submit up to three (3) entries.

(Please use pen or type all entries)

The Awards are as follows: 1st -\$100, 2nd -\$75, 3rd -\$50; and Comic Muse 1st -\$50, 2nd -\$25. All winners and those receiving honorable mention will receive a volume of poetry, some of which are written by former or current contest judges.

Throughout her life, Dorothy Goddard Capman was a poet. Her purpose in writing poetry was simple: She honored people she loved with a poem for any special occasion; it could be a birthday, anniversary, retirement, graduation, birth or even death. She wrote many poems of prayer, some of introspection and many of fun.

Dorothy had little formal education, but she valued education highly and would settle for nothing less than a fine education for her children. In the opinion of most who knew her, she was herself an educated woman, albeit by her own hand. She read constantly, never missed an opportunity to join into a class, attended lectures and was closely involved with her children's schools. She truly believed in education, but she did have one criticism.

Dorothy always thought that public education put far too little emphasis upon the written word. She was often dismayed that her friends could not write what she considered a proper letter. Many of her friends came to her for help when circumstances demanded that they write such a letter. She was a great advisor when her children had writing assignments, whether they were letters, book reports, research papers, stories or poems. One of her most valuable pieces of advice to her children was "always write about something of which you have personal knowledge. Whether you are writing about science, history, life or feelings, you will never go wrong if you write about what you know."

In late night philosophical discussion, Dorothy would often muse, "Wouldn't it be wonderful if poets got awards in schools, like athletes do! I think it's just as remarkable to write a poem as it is to catch a football. Don't you?"



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**DOROTHY GODDARD CAPMAN
POETRY AWARD**

Please complete the following application form and submit up to 3 original poems (*please use pen or type*) of your creation. Entries may be submitted to Mrs. Tobias no later than April 1. Poems will be judged by a panel comprised of language arts teachers and professionally published poets.

Recipients will be notified and special recognition will take place near the end of the school year. If you have questions, please ask Mrs. Tobias or call the Marshall Community Foundation at 269.781.2273 or e-mail info@marshallcf.org.

(Please use pen or type)

Name _____ Grade _____

Seminar teacher _____ Number of Entries _____

Titles of Entries _____

How did you develop an interest in writing poetry? Why do you enjoy writing poetry?

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____