

Raymond Carver Writing Festival  
Adult Poetry Contest

**Poetry contest guidelines:**

This poetry contest is open to those aged 18 and over who reside in the Lower Columbia area. Awards will be presented for first and second place winners.

Poetry will be judged on:

**Attention to contest theme:** “Where I’m Calling From”

In Raymond Carver’s writing the characters are often observed for just a snapshot in time, in ordinary situations. There is no background history provided, no foreshadowing of what will happen in the future. He describes and then places the reader fully in the moments in front of them.

**Poetic elements:** use of poetic elements such as imagery, repetition, alliteration, use of stanzas, metaphor/simile, rhythm, rhyme, etc.

**Creativity/originality:** poem(s) must be the writer’s own original, unpublished work

- 1) Only two entries per person will be accepted..
- 2) Poems must be between 10 and 45 lines, including stanza breaks.
- 3) Poems must be received by 6pm on April 30th.
- 4) Clatskanie Library District is not responsible for late, lost, stolen, misdirected, damaged, incomplete or illegible submissions, or postage-due mail.
- 5) Confirmation of receipt and comments on your entry will not be provided, nor will your entry be returned to you.
- 6) There will be two winners selected. A \$100 prize will be awarded for first place and a \$50 prize will be awarded for second place.
- 7) Winners will be notified prior to the Raymond Carver Writing Festival.
- 8) Judges’ decisions are final.
- 9) Poem and official entry form may be submitted by any one of the following methods:

Emailed to [admin@clatskanielibrary.org](mailto:admin@clatskanielibrary.org)

Dropped off at the Clatskanie Library District, 11 Lillich Street Clatskanie, OR 97016, or

Mailed to Clatskanie Library District, PO Box 577, Clatskanie, OR 97016

**\*\*Awards will be publicly presented May 18th at the Raymond Carver Writing Festival\*\***

**Raymond Carver Writing Festival  
Poetry Contest  
Official Entry Form**

**Please submit your poem on a separate page and attach it to this form. Do not include your name on the poem.**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Poem Title: \_\_\_\_\_

By submitting an entry, I affirm that I understand and accept the contest rules and procedures.

**Rights associated with the contest:**

All entries must be the original creation of the submitting author. All rights to the entry shall remain the property of the author. The author gives permission to the Clatskanie Arts Commission to publish and display the entry on its website if the entry is selected as a winner. Winners will be announced at the Raymond Carver Writing Festival. Void where prohibited.

Support for this contest was received from: **Wauna Credit Union, PGE, and the Clatskanie Arts Commission.**

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