



**Phoenix Sister Cities
Disability Awareness Committee
Presents**

**the 13th Annual International Competition
for
Writers with Disabilities 2024**

THEME:

***“Equality, Prosperity, and
Peace for All”***

“He who draws noble
delights from
sentiments of poetry is
a true poet, though he
has never written a
line in all his life.”
~George Sand, 1851

“Poets are soldiers
that liberate words
from the steadfast
possession of
definition.”
~Eli Khamarov
The Shadow Zone

The 13th International Competition For Writers with Disabilities 2024

*“Equality, Prosperity, and Peace
for All”*

Since its inception in 1996, the Phoenix Sister Cities Disability Awareness Committee (PSC/DAC) has strived to promote global awareness of the capabilities of persons with disabilities. We have accomplished this mission through a variety of programs which showcase the skills of persons with disabilities such as the International Competition for Artists with Disabilities. Through these efforts PSC/DAC has been nationally recognized as a leader in the disability arena and has won the International Sister Cities Disability Advocacy Award seven times.

PSC/DAC is proud to announce its International Competition for Writers with Disabilities (ICWD). This contest extends the PSC/DAC’s outreach efforts to writers and provides an opportunity for them to display their creativity through poetry.

The Phoenix Sister Cities are Calgary, Canada; Catania, Italy; Chengdu, China; Ennis, Ireland; Grenoble, France; Hermosillo, Mexico; Himeji, Japan; Prague, Czech Republic; Ramat-Gan, Israel; Suwon, South Korea; and Taipei, Taiwan.

“The smell of ink
is intoxicating to
me - others may
have wine, but I
have poetry.”
~Abbe Yeux-
Verdi

“Poetry is
thoughts that
breathe, and
words that burn.”
~Thomas Gray

What to submit

ELIGIBILITY

Each participating writer with a disability must be 19 years of age or older at the time the entries are due on September 20th, 2024. Entries should be inspired by the theme “*Equality, Prosperity and Peace for All*” and must be original unpublished work. Each writer may submit multiple entries.

Each entry must be submitted with a completed official entry form. All writers with disabilities 19 years and older from Arizona are eligible to participate, along with Phoenix Sister City counterparts.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

The competition organizers reserve the right to modify or clarify any of the competition rules during the term of the competition without notice. No Sister City program may reproduce finalist poetry online, on merchandise and printed materials without express written permission of the PSC/DAC.

COMPETITION

All submissions become the property of PSC/DAC. There is a \$15 entry fee for Arizona residents. There is no fee for our Sister Cities entrants.

JUDGING

A panel of judges will evaluate entries on the basis of theme interpretation, composition and originality. During the judging, artists’ names and communities are kept confidential.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

The grand prize winner will receive a \$500 cash award. Cash awards will also be given to 2nd place (\$300) and 3rd place (\$150) winners.

(Note: Limit one cash award per writer)

Winners will be announced on the PSC/DAC Website. All entrants will receive a “Certificate of Participation” and recognition will be given to those entries that placed first, second and third. Entries will also be published on the PSC/DAC website.

How to submit

FORMAT SPECIFICATIONS

- **Poems shall be no more than 32 lines.**
- **Poems must be submitted in English. Poems not submitted in English will be sent to the respective PSC City Committee. If poems cannot be translated by members of the committee, poems will be translated through a computerized program.**
- Poems must be submitted with a cover note listing the author’s name, address and phone number.
- **The name must not be on the poem itself.**
- Style is open.
- Subject matter is open, but must be consistent with the theme: “*Equality, Prosperity and Peace for All*”
- It is preferred that entries be submitted electronically in **Word** file format, but please contact us for any special accommodation needed at: office@aiccd.net

Entries not conforming to contest rules will be disqualified; entry fees will not be returned.

DEADLINE: September 20th, 2024

Send entries to: office@aiccd.net

An Awards Ceremony will be held on Friday Evening, November 8th, 2024, at Fair Trade Café, 1020 N 1st Ave. Phoenix, AZ, 85003

Please complete form in **English** and enclose with each poem submitted, along with entry fee, as applicable to office@aiccd.net. Payment shall be made electronically on the PSC Website at: www.phoenixsistercities.org.

Writer's Name: _____ Birth Date: _____

Home Address: _____ \

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

Disability Classification: (e.g. visually impaired, hearing impairment, etc.)

Title of Poem: _____

Please tell us what inspired you to write this poem (in 100 words or less)

I do do not give my permission to Phoenix Sister Cities / City of Phoenix to state my disability in promotional materials or presentations associated with this program. If the city mentions my disability, I would prefer it to be worded or described as _____ (i.e. visually impaired rather than blind).

Please include a short biography of the writer which may be included on the Phoenix Sister Cities/Disability Awareness Committee Website.

We understand that all entries become the property of PSC/DAC. Although the writer retains his/her copyright for other uses, PSC/DAC will retain perpetual, non-exclusive rights to use submitted poems in any future publication, promotion material or on-line service with no compensation other than credit with the writer's name and community. PSC/DAC reserves the right to free reproduction of all submissions. All fees associated with the competition become the property of PSC/DAC and will not be returned.

By submitting this entry, we agree to give PSC/DAC, its members and affiliates, permission to publish and display the submitted entry at public exhibits, online and in publications and/or promotional materials including video, and calendars, at the discretion of PSC/DAC. We agree to abide by all the rules and terms of the competition and agree to waive all claims of any kind against the competition organizers.

Sister Cities Entry: _____ Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

Signature: _____

For questions or additional information, please contact Robin Baethke at: office@aiccd.net