



# 2015 Valentine's Day Poetry Winners

For Kids 3rd through 8th Grade

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## Grade 3 Winner

- **Emily Ann Light**
- Grade 3, Home School Student, Kansas City, MO

### **A Rainbow of Roses**

Bright pretty yellow roses on a summer day  
Like little yellow butterflies flutter and play.  
When I see coral roses, like a lovely peach,  
I imagine sea stars, shells, and walks on the beach.  
Cinderella's mouse friends made a sweet gown in pink.  
Her dress twirled like lovely pink roses, don't you think?  
Big bold red roses look like sparkling fairy clothes  
The color of juicy cherries, how I love those.  
Lovely white roses like blankets of winter snow,  
The magical light of the full moon makes them glow.  
Pale blue roses like a beautiful summer sky  
Make me dream of the sweet blue morpho butterfly.  
And then there is purple, my favorite rose of all.  
I love every rose whether they are big or small.  
Some fade into colors like sunsets in the West.  
Reds, yellows, violets, pinks, whites – which one is the best?

**Judge's Comment:** "A Rainbow of Roses" by Emily Ann Light won for its rich imagery, good use of metaphor and alliteration, and its charming playfulness.

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## Grade 6 Winner

- **Tara Lentell**
- Grade 6, Barstow School, Kansas City, MO

### Ode to Roses

Ohhh! Roses, you are incomparable!  
Your sweet smell wafts through the air.  
I lift you to my nose, and it's like I'm in heaven.  
The best gift of all to get on Valentine's Day.  
Chocolates are fine, but without you Valentine's would be nothing.  
On Valentine's Day, I am presented with a rose, and I am blushing.  
Your perfect petals are a brilliant red, dazzling in the sunlight.  
Your petals have crisp edges, making your fine details stand out more beautifully.  
You are so fine I can't help but stare.  
Even with thorns, you are the most delicate thing on the Earth.  
To me, more than a million is what you're worth.  
I have four roses, but that's not enough. I need more than eleven.  
I look around my house, and I see you every which way.  
You are beautiful all the time, sunrise to twilight.  
You are finer than any jewelry.  
I could have acres of you, and never have enough.  
I wish you would never wilt or fade.  
You seem so gentle while many plants seem rough.  
Ever since I found you, my love for you has never swayed.  
Roses, you are small and cute, yet strong and commanding.  
Nothing could hold a candle to you – you are outstanding!  
Ohhh! Roses, how I love you!

**Judge's Comment:** "Ode to Roses" by Tara Lentell impressed the judges. An ode should convey exuberant praise, and Tara's ode did exactly that.

## Grade 7 Winner

- **Josephine Cotton**
- Grade 7, Indian Hills Middle School, Prairie Village, KS

### Seasons of a Rose

Rose shaking a hand  
Whistling breeze swaying stems  
Speckled with sunshine

Rose under mountains  
In the gold of autumn skies  
Clinging onto sun

Rose chilled with crystals  
Dot of red in sea of white  
Fragile as the moon

Rose bloom like magic

Splitting splattering rain  
Shining with cool drops

**Judge's Comment:** "Seasons of a Rose" by Josephine Cotton demonstrates a mastery of structure. Each stanza is a haiku using lovely imagery and fresh language.