2024 YOUTH POERRY CONTEST WINNERS



INDIANA STATE WINNERS

My Garden Has Vegetables to Spare That I Can Share -Helping Fight Hunger By Sharing Vegetables From Our Garden

The 2024 National Garden Clubs, Inc. Youth Poetry contest was open to all youth in Kindergarten through Twelfth Grade. The contest was designed to excite and encourage youth to explore their creative thoughts through poetry.

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The theme of the 2024-2025 National Garden Clubs, Inc. Youth Poetry Contest was:

My Garden Has Vegetables to Spare That I Can Share - Helping Fight Hunger by Sharing Vegetables From Our Garden

Youth in Kindergarten through Twelfth Grade were invited to participate by sending their poems to their local garden club. Winning poems from each garden club were sent to the state competition. This booklet contains the Indiana state winning poems for each grade level. *Poems are printed as submitted, including grammar and spelling errors.* State winners will be sent to the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Region competition; and those winners will be sent to the national competition.

The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.

... is a non-profit educational organization, formed in 1930, to stimulate knowledge of gardening; to aid in the protection of trees, plants and birds; and to promote civic beautification. The fundamental objectives are expanded to meet the needs of today: community beautification; roadside development; good horticultural practices; litter control; aid in the protection of trees, shrubs, wildflowers and birds; and preservation and restoration of historic sites.

gardenclubofindiana.org

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

... is a 501(c)(3) organization whose Mission is to provide education, resources, and national networking opportunities for its members to promote the love of gardening, floral design, and civic and environmental responsibility.

gardenclub.org

Kindergarten Winner Leo R., Crown Point, IN



Apples

Applesauce
Pretty colors
Pick off a tree
Like the crunch they make when you bite into them
Eat them with peanut butter
Share them with others except the ones with worms, they go to the birds



Special Needs Kindergarten Winner

Allison M., Crown Point, IN



Garden Fun

Water plants Pick tomatoes Watch butterflies Hear birds enjoying Gods food Sharing with others who have none



First Grade Winner Audrey S., Crown Point, IN



Sharing From My Garden

I like to share tomatoes Because it makes me feel good. I like to share my flowers Because they smell very good. I like to share sweet peppers Because they taste very yummy in my tummy.



Sixth Grade Winner

Allena R., Columbus, IN



Harvesting hope: A bounty to share

In my garden, where dreams take flight, Veggies flourish, a dazzling sight. Tomatoes blush in the golden sun, Carrots peek out, their race just begun. Cucumbers spiral, a twisty delight, Peppers flaunt colors, oh what a sight! Spinach unfurls in a leafy parade, In this green haven, joy is displayed. Zucchini grins with its plump, sunny face, Filling the world with kindness and grace. With every harvest, my spirit takes wing, Sharing my bounty, oh, what joy it can bring! Gather around, let laughter ignite, With veggies aplenty, hearts feel so light. Hunger withers where generosity grows, In each vibrant bite, compassion bestows. So come, take a seat, let our stories flow, Together, we'll plant seeds of hope as we sow. In this garden of dreams, where love intertwines, A tapestry woven with magical vines.



Seventh Grade Winner

Emma B., North Salem, IN



Give Hunger the Boot

Sharing veggies is great fun To make hunger finished and done. If we all do our part To fill a belly and a heart, People will be happier if we help them out. So pitch in, and fight hunger with a shout, "I will help to give veggies and fruit, I will help to give hunger the boot!"



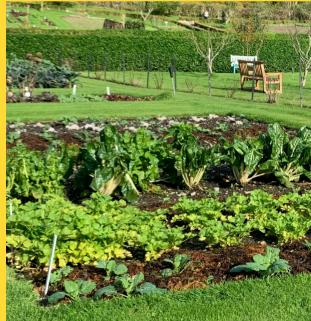
Eighth Grade Winner Vidita K., Columbus, IN

Come to my garden, I have lots to share!

My garden has vegetables to spare I have plenty and I am willing to share With friends, neighbors, and people who come by To taste the freshness from the vine THE GARDEN CLUS

Where plump tomatoes, crunchy lettuce, and sweet corn Bright orange carrots, multi-colored peppers, and round green peas are born All grown with love and care To ensure no hunger or despair To fill bodies and nourish the soul With healthy fruits and vegetables that will console

So come to my garden, take what you please Join me in this beautiful feast Where we shall enjoy nature's gift That helps us prosper, thrive, and live



Special Needs **Tenth Grade Winner**

Cliffton T., Portage, IN



My Garden

I have many vegetables In my beautiful garden. I will be generous And share with all who are in need. You can find me at the YMCA. We can make you strong. My vegetables are free. Come and get all you need.



Eleventh Grade Winner

Jerral M., Portage, IN



Live and Help Thrive

You have heard it told, Live and let live. I will tell you now, Live and help thrive, So that the community shall never die! Be one with the drive to share. For each other we must care. With the fruits of our labor And the fruits of the ground, We extend our table to you With happiness abound.



Special Needs Eleventh Grade Winner Caiden C., Portage, IN

Garden of Giving



In a sunny corner of my backyard,

My garden thrives...

Bursting with ripe tomatoes, crisp cucumbers, and leafy greens.

Each season I plant with hope

And now my harvest has produced more than I could ever eat alone.

It's the perfect opportunity to share my bounty with all...

Neighbors, friends, and anyone in need.

With every basket of veggies passed along,

My garden gives more than just food.

It spreads joy, kindness, and the warmth of community.



Twelfth Grade Winner

Jonathan D., Portage, IN



Garden of Glory

As the garden grows, the beautiful green shows. The people below grow worried, with hunger forthcoming. But no worry, since my garden is a vast sea... For plenty to take and many more to feed, So, when the time comes to harvest, the people run out to my garden With friend and foe, to gallop through my garden, With a smile, like never seen before...





Proud members of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

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