

Children's Literature Association Quarterly Special Issue Call for Papers

“Youth Poets in Children's Literature, Media, and Performance”

Edited by Jennifer Tullos and Krystal Howard

Amanda Gorman, the first youth poet laureate of the United States, captivated millions during her performance at Joseph R. Biden's presidential inauguration in January of 2021. Her performance serves as a reminder that young people have long been writing and that their voices deserve recognition. From Jacqueline Woodson's *Brown Girl Dreaming* to Elizabeth Acevedo's *The Poet X* to the hundreds of young people who participate each year in youth slam poetry, children's literature and culture are filled with youth who choose poetry as their mode of expression.

This special issue will examine the relationship(s), both contemporary and historical, between youth and poetry. We are particularly interested in the ways that poetry written by, for, or about youth respond to and represent the intersecting, multiplicitous experiences of LGBTQ and BIPOC youth.

Possible topics include but are not limited to:

- Representations of race, gender, sexuality, socioeconomic class, physical abilities, and neurodiversity in poetry by/for/about youth
- Conceptions and representations of childhood in poetry by/for/about youth
- Forms, functions, affordances, and limitations of poetry as a medium for youth expression and/or representation
- Agency and authorship in performances and publications by youth poets
- Performances studies and poetry by/for/about youth
- Awards, honors, prizes, and competition in poetry by/for/about youth
- Evolution and/or historicization of poetry by/for/about youth
- Accessibility and poetry by/for/about youth

Papers should conform to the usual style of the *ChLAQ* and be between 6,000 and 10,000 words in length. Please send questions and completed essays to Jennifer Tullos and Krystal Howard (jennifer.tullos@ppgngaik.org and krystal.howard@csun.edu) with “ChLAQ Essay” in the subject line. Essays must be submitted by November 1, 2021, and the selected essays will appear in the *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 47.4 (Winter 2022) issue. High-quality submissions that are not included in the special issue can be considered for future issues of the *Children's Literature Association Quarterly*.