



To: Teachers of Grades K-12

From: Museums on the Green of the Falmouth Historical Society

Re: 2026 Katharine Lee Bates Poetry Contest

For over two decades, we have honored Falmouth's famous poet, Katharine Lee Bates, author of the patriotic poem "America the Beautiful." The Falmouth Historical Society will hold its 27th annual Katharine Lee Bates Poetry Fest featuring winners of the student and adult poetry contests. We invite you and your students to help us honor Katharine Lee Bates by entering the contest.

Entrants may submit one original poem about a topic of their choice. There is no specific theme. The poems (unsigned) must be accompanied by a completed entry form (copy as needed). To make it easier for the teachers, this year we will have a volunteer pick up entries from each school on Friday afternoon, May 16, 2025. The poems, each attached to an entry form, should be at the front desk of each school by 12 noon on May 16. Contest winners will be notified through the school by early June with an invitation to read their prize-winning poem at the Poetry Fest.

2026 Katharine Lee Bates Poetry Fest
Thursday, June 11, 2025 at 4:30 PM
Cultural Center of the Museums on the Green of the Falmouth Historical Society
(55 Palmer Ave., Falmouth; parking at GPS 35 Katharine Lee Bates Road).

Each winner will receive gift card(s) and a printed copy of a booklet with all of the winning poems. School libraries and the Falmouth Public Library will also receive the booklet, and additional booklets will be available for sale to parents and others who might like to purchase them.

We hope you will encourage your students to participate in National Poetry Month and we hope to have many submissions from your students!

The Falmouth Historical Society does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, disability, national origin or sexual orientation.

Rachel Lovett
Executive Director