



## 2008 YOUTH COWBOY POETRY CONTEST

Cowboy poetry is as old as cowboys themselves. Cowboys have always been creative. Most early cowboys led solitary lives with long hours in the saddle and lots of time for thinking and creating. After a hard day on the range, cowboys of the Old West would sit around the campfire at night and entertain one another with poems or tall tales known as "windies". Cowboy poetry is usually set out in short lines with words put together in rhythm or rhyme or both. Poetry is about a writer sharing an experience or strong feelings. Poems are written with words chosen for their sounds and beauty as well as their meaning. So cowboy poetry tells things about cowboy or frontier life written in rhyme.

Not just cowboys write cowboy poetry. Many people, young and old have written poems about the western frontier. We invite you to write a poem for the second annual Frontier Fest Youth Cowboy Poetry Contest to be held in Historic Gardner Village on June 14, 2008. You can write a poem about nature, animals, the land or how people lived, worked and played during the early days of the Utah Frontier up to the arrival of the railroad. You can even write a poem about how these things compare to your life today. The instructions for the contest are:

- ❖ Send-in an original poem stapled to the entry form found below to the address found on the entry form before May 25, 2008. You may also email your poem to [IAE123@gmail.com](mailto:IAE123@gmail.com) with the information on the entry form.
- ❖ Six finalists will be selected from all of the poems received. Finalists will be notified on June 1 and will read or recite their poem on the Village Center Stage during Frontier Fest on June 14, 2008 at 12:30 pm. All finalists will receive a pair of tickets for a Historic Heber Railroad excursion.
- ❖ The 1st place winner will recite his or her poem during the evening's pre-Show of "The Ghosts of Gardner Village and will receive two tickets to the Heber Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Nov.

Everyone who submits a poem will receive a certificate of participation. All finalists will be recognized on Clog America and Utah Pioneer Heritage Arts' web sites.

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**2008 Frontier Fest Youth Cowboy Poetry Contest Entry Form**  
**Staple to the original poem and hand in during the Frontier Field Trip or mail to:**  
**11416 Skylux Ave, South Jordan, UT 84095**

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher's name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this entry form, a parent or guardian gives permission for their student to enter the 2007 Frontier Fest Youth Cowboy Poetry Contest. The student, with parental support, agree to recite his or her poem at the 2008 Frontier Fest which will be held on Saturday June 14, 2008 at Gardner Historic Village located at 1100 West 7800 South in West Jordan if chosen as a finalist.