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Young poets win college tuition & their poems displayed on DART buses and trains

DART, Richland College & Galatyn Park Announce Poetry Contest Winners

DART and Richland College officials and contest sponsor Galatyn Park Corporation representatives announced the three school-age winners of the Poetry in Motion contest at a DART Board meeting presentation on February 13.



The contest, begun last summer, is part of Poetry in Motion, a national program coordinated by the Poetry Society of America, and sponsored by DART and Richland College of the Dallas County Community College District. The program places classic poems and works by local poets in advertising spaces on DART buses and trains.

Contest sponsor Galatyn Park Corporation is developing a 500-acre transit-oriented community adjacent to Galatyn Park Station, located on North Central Expressway and Lookout Drive. It is scheduled to open in the summer of 2002 together with other Dallas and Richardson Stations on DART's Red Line extension from Park Lane to the Telecom Corridor.

The contest invited entrants to write a brief poem on a transit theme. Many students in area schools participated in the contest. Flora Pula of Richardson West Junior High in Richardson was named winner in the category of Young Adults 14 to 19 years old. She was awarded a year of college tuition and books at Richland College for her poem "Time."



In the category of Youth 7 to 13 years old, Eileen Chen and MaCall Shoquist, both students at E. L. DeGolyer Elementary School in Dallas, were awarded a year of community courses of their choice at Richland College - Eileen for "DART Train is Racing," and MaCall for "I Love to Ride."

The winning poems will be displayed on DART trains and buses from mid-February through mid-April. Winners also receive copies of a Poetry in Motion anthology and postcard book, plus a free year's membership in the Poetry Society of America.

Don Dillard, Vice President of Galatyn Park Corporation, presented a check for \$1,500 to Richland College to cover the tuition and books for the winners. "DART and Richland College are great partners in transportation and education - two critical ingredients in any urban enterprise," he said.



Richland College President Dr. Stephen Mittelstet applauded the young poets, and hailed the college's sponsorship of the Poetry in Motion program for the past two years. "Students from many nationalities and cultural backgrounds receive their associate degrees through our extensive liberal arts program. More than 200,000 riders of all ages, ethnic origins and economic levels come together on DART's buses and trains each day, and the poems are there for all to enjoy. What better way for Richland College to promote two of our major goals - the love of literature and building community."