



BCA 125th Anniversary Gatha Lyric-writing Contest

You are invited to submit entry lyrics to a gatha contest that is being held in commemoration of the BCA 125th anniversary in 2024. The winning lyrics will be set to music by composers to be commissioned to produce gathas which will be featured during 2024 for various BCA 125th anniversary events planned across all BCA districts. To be considered for the contest, all entries must be received by **June 4, 2023**

The following guidelines will apply:

Lyrics will contain at least two and not more than four stanzas and may have a repeating section suitable for a chorus or refrain in between.

The theme of the lyrics may focus on the BCA National Council Meeting 2024 theme “Embracing the Dharma with Hope and Joy”, the BCA “Life of Gratitude” theme, or on aspects of Shinran Shonin’s life and legacy.

The submissions will be judged for two separate age-based categories:

Dharma School (DS) students and Post-High School/Adults.

The DS entry may be by an individual student or a collaborative group or class effort.

Cash prizes totaling \$ 500 for each category will be awarded to the lyric winners.

For the BCA Music Committee 125th Anniversary Gatha Contest, please use the appropriate category form provided to include the lyric submission.

Please e-mail entries for the **DS youth category to Darlene Bagshaw at dbagshaw@bcahq.org**. (Please note also the separate DS instructions for early entry to the FDSTL conference contest.)

Please send or e-mail entries for the **post-high school/adult category** to

Angela Bartolacci at abartolacci@bcahq.org

Buddhist Churches of America

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Gatha Lyric-writing Contest and Music Commission Task Group: Darlene Bagshaw,
Kemi Nakabayashi, Donna Sasaki, Dennis Yamashita

For questions, please contact Kemi Nakabayashi, BCA Music Committee chairperson at nakabayashi.bcamusic@gmail.com