

**Federation of Dharma School Teachers League**  
**Gatha Lyric-writing Contest**

The FDSTL is co-sponsoring the BCA 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gatha Lyric-writing Contest and would like all students (up to and including high school seniors) to participate. The students do not have to be registered with Dharma School.

All submitted lyrics will be displayed at the FDSTL conference on April 29 and 30<sup>th</sup> 2023 at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple, hosted by the Bay district.

All submissions will be entered into the BCA contest. The BCA contest winning lyrics will be set to music by composers to be commissioned to produce gathas which will be featured during 2024 for various BCA 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary events planned across the BCA district.

To be considered for the FDSTL contest, entries need to be received by **April 14, 2023**.

These entries will also be submitted to the BCA gatha lyric writing contest.

Entries received after **April 14** and no later than **June 4** will be eligible and submitted for the BCA gatha lyric writing contest for the youth category.

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 the aspects of Shinran Shonin’s life and legacy.

The Dharma School entry may be by an individual student or a collaborative group or class effort. Cash prizes will be awarded to the lyric winners.

Please use the form provided and include the lyric submission. The forms will be emailed to BCA temples and Dharma School.

Please send entries to Darlene Bagshaw at [dbagshaw@bcahq.org](mailto:dbagshaw@bcahq.org)

- Or mail to:

Darlene Bagshaw  
1083 Eleanor Lane  
Manteca, CA 95337

For questions, please contact Judy Yuki, [jhmyuki@gmail.com](mailto:jhmyuki@gmail.com).

**FDSTL/BCA Music Committee Gatha Lyric-writing Contest  
Youth Entry Form**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Temple Affiliation (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact information:**

Name of primary contact (if under the age of 18, please include Dharma School teacher or parent information)

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Gatha Lyric submission:**

Title of gatha: \_\_\_\_\_

Lyrics (may use separate sheet)