The Behavioral and Community Health Sciences Department of the Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy (NEOUCOM) is sponsoring its 28th annual poetry writing competition during the 2009-2010 academic year. The competition is open to medical students attending schools of medicine or osteopathy in the United States and Canada. Preliminary judging will be done by English department faculty at NEOUCOM’s consortium universities, and final judging will be by Richard M. Berlin, M.D., psychiatrist and poet from the University of Massachusetts Medical School. The editors of the Journal of Medical Humanities will review the winning poems and consider them for possible publication.

- Entries must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2009.
- Each participating student is permitted three entries.
- Poems must be typed on 8.5 x 11 inch paper.
- Poems must be written in English and can reflect medical as well as non-medical subjects.
- Five (5) copies of each poem must be submitted.
- A separate cover page should be attached to the original copy of each poem and should include the poet’s name, current address and phone number, permanent address and phone number, e-mail address, name of the poet’s medical or osteopathic school (United States and Canada only), and the title of the work.
- All entries will undergo blind review and should contain no identifying information other than the title of the poem.
- Winning poetry will be selected on the basis of craftsmanship, originality and content.
- Each poem must be original, unpublished (except for college publications), and must not have won a contest at the time of submission. Previous monetary winners in the William Carlos Williams poetry competition are not eligible.
- Each poem is not to exceed 750 words.
- Receipt of entries will not be acknowledged unless requested.
- Entrants must be enrolled in programs leading to the M.D. or D.O. degree.
- Winning poems will be announced by March 15, 2010. The top three poets will be awarded $300, $200, and $100 respectively. In addition, the three winners will be invited to visit NEOUCOM on April 23, 2010 to read their poems. All travel expenses will be paid by the Behavioral and Community Health Sciences Department.

Entries should be mailed to:

Behavioral and Community Health Sciences Department
WCW Poetry Competition
4209 S.R. 44
P.O. Box 95
Rootstown, OH 44272-0095

Questions?
Phone: 330-325-6125