

# BLACKOUT POETRY ZINE

## WHAT IS A ZINE?

Zines are self-published works of art, poetry, and other media that are created by hand or digitally and distributed to an audience. They have their literary roots in fanzines and magazines and are typically produced in small batches.

## WHAT IS BLACKOUT POETRY?

Blackout poetry is the unique process of creating poetry from an existing text. A writer takes an existing piece of printed text and marks out certain words (often in an artistic way), leaving behind words that form a visual poem on the page. The redacted or selected text does not have to be any required length, but it should form a sort of visual poem making use of word choice, theme, and mood.

## HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

All teens in the Carmel community are welcome to participate in the Blackout Poetry Zine. We will be accepting submissions from October 12 through December 31, 2020. Stop by the library to pick up a Blackout Poetry Kit that contains materials to create your poem. If you have materials at home, you may use them as well. Submissions will be compiled into a digital zine at the end of the submission period.

## GUIDELINES

1. Each submission must be a work of blackout poetry. There are creativity prompts listed below that will help your submission stand out.
2. All submissions must be original works.
3. Submissions cannot contain offensive language or images and must adhere to the library's [Standards of Conduct](#).
4. For each submission received, teens can receive 2 hours of community service. If you would like to receive volunteer credit, please make sure you are a member of the library's Teen Volunteer Corps. If you are not a member of the Teen Volunteer Corps,

we encourage signing up at [carmelclaylibrary.org/teen-volunteer-corps](https://www.carmelclaylibrary.org/teen-volunteer-corps) so that we can record your community service hours.

5. There is a limit of 3 submissions per student.
6. Please submit your work as a JPG (1–2 MB) by photographing or scanning the original work. Email your submissions to [youngadult@carmel.lib.in.us](mailto:youngadult@carmel.lib.in.us) and include your first and last name with your submission.
7. Your blackout poem may appear on our social media sites. If you do not wish your submission to be published, please specify in your email.

## Questions about this project?

Contact [youngadult@carmel.lib.in.us](mailto:youngadult@carmel.lib.in.us)

## CREATIVITY PROMPTS

- Combine your blackout poem with a drawing or design that relates to the selected text.
- Tear, fray, or fringe the edges around your poem.
- Enhance your blackout poem with watercolor or colored pencils.
- Select varied text sizes for your blackout poem.
- Create a haiku or lyrical masterpiece.
- Create abstract shapes or doodles around your poem.
- Combine your blackout poem with a self-portrait that relates to the text.
- Create colorful swirls and patterns around your poem.
- Use found objects, such as a coin, to circle particular words for your poem.
- Surprise us! Venture off on your own using your imagination.