



**2019 REFUGEES & HUMAN RIGHTS
CHILD & YOUTH POETRY CONTEST
DIVISION 1 – GRADES 4 TO 6**

**CLAIRE BOWERMAN, GRADE 6
ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
HONOURABLE MENTION**

A THOUSAND

A thousand disapproving faces,
A thousand wishful faces,
Longing, for a place to stay,
Other than the camp with a thousand tents,
There were a thousand families,
All running, searching, for a better place.
There were no free tents when we arrived,
We had to share, the family was nice,
We were lucky, many had lost loved ones.
A thousand, maybe more were lost.
A thousand graves, some in our home country,
Some, in one of the many countries we passed,
Some, not buried at all.
A thousand days of pain,
Hiding, trying to find somewhere to stay,
For just one night,
Sometimes out in the open,
Taking turns watching for soldiers,
Sometimes having to run through the night,
Running from the thousand bombs that destroyed our home,
Running from the thousand soldiers, attacking, destroying and killing.
If only we could stay somewhere for more than just one night.



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**JAMES WATERS, GRADE 6
LAKESHORE PUBLIC SCHOOL
HONOURABLE MENTION**

I SHAKE YOUR HAND

I won't make fun.

I will include you.

You were forced to leave your country, but I will help you to travel to a better place.

A place with kids like me.

I will always empathize.

I acknowledge what you've been through.

I will have your back always.

We'll share stories to keep up your memories.

I welcome you.

So I shake your hand to include you!





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**LAYLA FOSTER, GRADE 6
KEPPEL SARAWAK
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
HONOURABLE MENTION**

WHAT'S YOUR PERSPECTIVE?

We are a flawed country
I refuse to believe that
We will end the wars
I know that
To have equality
We will have
To let our world turn to war
We are not going
To survive
The peace of this world is going
To disappear
War is here

Our world
that's
Slowly falling apart
Wars
that's all our world is
Hope, Love, Families
Gone
Mourning, Destruction, Sorrow
That's all we have
World peace
Is a lie.
War.

(READ BACKWARDS)