

The winner of the Junior Poetry Competition was Maya Young, Grade 9, from St Cyprian's High School, for a poem entitled "Whispers in the Walls".

WHISPERS IN THE WALLS

Whispers in the walls
Voices belong to places I have never seen
My breath is the only sound around me
Writing in the dark
Beautiful poetic thoughts
Hide from the cold night
Thousands of hands tapping against my window
Below thick duvet sheets I write
Cocooned in an orange world
Paintings of today hang in my mind
Voices, movement leave trails behind
Blushed cheeks
Staccato guitar lesson
My fingers unable to stay with the music
Inches from touching it
But I still feel magic
The resonance of the strings
It draws stars
Floods pages
Sleep is an unwanted friend tonight
He refuses to walk away
Only pulls down my eyelids further
I want to see colours
The world
Looks different tonight
I search for new places in my bedroom walls
Sleep holds me

The winner of the Senior Poetry Competition was Ariel Oudmayer, Grade 11, King David High School, Linksfield, for a poem entitled "Dylan".

DYLAN

Beloved Dylan
Happy birthday.

It's nearly been a year since I
saw you.
I've brought candles, there's cake and
flowers.
As beautiful as the Sunday when

I listened to our song today but the words have
different meanings
now.

It's nearly been a year since I
whispered
in your ear
sleeping so
softly in your cocoon

And I can still hear the incessant, tenebrous buzz of the
machine
rhythmic and
fragile like
you.

Regrettably, I am unable to attend so tell me, Butterfly:

Do they have birthday parties up there?