Reflecting on Nature: On-the-Spot Poetry Competition 2019 **WINNING POEMS**

Light

wisps, shafts, tendrils warming my face

warming my heart
thick golden honey
caressing the rough oak bark
illuminating life everywhere
splaying like hair

across delicate, tiny leaves
gentle hands of a fair maiden
weaving the day
playing with the children of the forest
smiling upon flora and fauna
she is

magical ~

TOP AWARD WINNER JANE THERESE NG

Touch

I reach out, a cool, steady flow welcomes me, rushing to escape through my fingers.

I touch little pieces of life, flawed, smooth, big, small, thick, thin, a place where differences are celebrated.

I feel a rough surface, worn, old, yet still strong, supporting and encouraging new life.

As I embrace this unique culture, a beautiful tapestry of balance, it adds colour and conquers the dark.

TOP AWARD WINNER LAI CI XUAN

Light

Peeking through
Canopies
A single ray
Bursts forth
Activity begins

TOP AWARD WINNER
MEGAN TAN

The Dream

The wind whispers to the waiting trees Special summons to rouse its spirit, Strumming its branches with it breeze, Swirling its leaves to add some merit.

The leaf sails along the river bumping into pebbles, tearing away, becoming smaller yet continuing its journey to the destination Indeed taught me a life lesson on determination

The fragrance of flowers dances its way into my heart shattering all my worries as I leave them behind and let the tranquil relax my mind

The bulbuls set off, flapping their wings, as a team. Water rushes down the rocks in a stream. This moment has always been my dream.

MERIT AWARD WINNER BALANITHILA SARAVANAN

Leaves on the water

Leaves on the water, elated to be free, are like little green boats sailing across the sea. Trying to ride on the wild waves, the boats bump into stones, in and out caves.

When lightning strikes and thunder booms,
The tiny boats got ready for their doom.
They swirl around helplessly, having nothing to say,
they let the rapid current sweep them away.

Then slowly, they turn from green to light yellow, as the thunder bellows and bellows.

Knowing it's the end of their day, the leaves sank to the bottom at the lake.

Well, they are leaves, for god's sake.

MERIT AWARD WINNER DWAYNE LOW

Blind man lost

I'm blind I can't see
So I touch things around me
I'm in a jungle I feel
I touch and it's rough
Oh I know! it is bark!
I move and feel
The second thing I touch
Oval shaped and not rough
It's a leaf!
and I finally realise at a cost
oh no I am lost!
I lay down and fell asleep
knowing it was going to be a long night for me.

MERIT AWARD WINNER ELSA-SUMAK TAN

The Journey of a Yellow Leaf

The Yellow Leaf touched the stream,
Moving silently down the waterfall,
Falling gladly down the stores and finally reaching Rock.
O' what a harsh fall it just took,
Smiling innocently with its pretty looks,
Touching a stone so hard, that it would never rise ever.

MERIT AWARD WINNER SOH KIT-SEN

i throw it in without so much as a ripple it drifts from calm to the rushing water from the shade of the trees into light the transformation of the water of the leaf that p u m m e S d W n

the rock made mass green and white and gray into white froth what does it mean?

MERIT AWARD WINNER
HANNAH CHUA

The Joys of Becoming a Butterfly

I flew through the breeze
I perched on a flower
I felt so free
I sucked up the nectar

I always felt trapped while in my shell
I felt hopeless, I thought that was my fate
Becoming a butterfly was like the light at the end of the tunnel
Now I could find a mate!

Finally, a mate!
A mate who could keep me company
A mate who could talk to me
Finally, I did not feel so lonely.

SPECIAL MENTION AWARD WINNER FATIH HAMDANI