

CORTLAND COUNTY COMMUNITY ARTS CHALLENGE

WRITING ENTRIES

POETRY

- The Rock Face** by Donna Atwood.....1
In a dream, this poem came to me. I woke up, scribbled it on a paper nearby, and recalled my 32 years of teaching 8th grade. Facing every day was a new challenge, and I faced it bravely, every day of those 32 years.
- Anatta** by Thomas Corey.....2
Anatta is the Pali word for the Buddhist concept of non-self. The poem attempts to approach the idea of the impermanence of self, the absence of self in the physical being, thoughts and actions; that we believe 'we are' is the source of dukkha or suffering.
- Unexpected Face** by Nancy Dickerson.....3
This poem came as a result of teaching a class in prison this summer to men with long sentences. It was a surprise to encounter the caring and protectiveness from them and the close relationships that were built in the time we spent together. I miss their faces daily.
- One Face** by Rachel Vigue Hyde.....4
The key to overcoming prejudice is coming to know people individually; one face becomes the key to an otherwise faceless group.
- Visage One and Six** by Michael Lipton.....5
Two short reflections on the faces of loved ones.
- New Face of Man?** by Dyan Lombardi.....6
"Blessed are the weird people; the poets and the misfits; the artists, the writers, and the music makers; the dreamers and the outsiders for they force us to see the world differently." Unknown
- Face to Face with a Young *BMS*** by Beth MacRae.....7
Born in 1881, Bessie Mabel Seely was the first woman to graduate from Syracuse University School of Law (in 1903). When I was a child, she was my across-the-street good neighbor, serving as stellar example of how a woman's life can be happily fashioned while remaining single.
- Shades from Seasons Past** by Frank Kelly.....8
Physical objects bring up memories of people from the past ~ images I once rejected but now, being older, welcome.
- Face It** by Tom Steger.....9
In putting my thoughts down on paper for this poem, I tried using as many interpretations of "face" as I could in my thoughts and words. The expressed opinions are totally mine, and attempt to show my current displeasure. Apologies to all.
- Face Time** by Tom Steger.....11
Our grandsons live 100 miles away, so face time allows us to keep in touch. We get all the latest info, and it always ends up with Oma and me getting a good laugh. We look forward to our calls!
- Face to Face** by Gary Weatherby.....13
We are so attuned from birth to facial recognition that we create in our mind's eye a complete construct of a face, and so a person, from the feelings we experience by viewing parts of a face or body in situ.

Not Happy with Your Faces, Men? by Martin A. Sweeney.....14

In an age that places emphasis on remaining youthful, at least in appearance, this whimsical poem makes a jab at skin care products and facial procedures, especially those aimed at male consumers.

PROSE

Unmasked: Reflections in a Mind’s Mirror by Frank Kelly.....16

Masks disguise our true identity. The longer we present a persona, the more likely we are to absorb elements of it. What if ritual masks had the power to transform – for good or bad – temporarily or permanently? Some cultures believe they do.

Her Other Face by Helen L. Leet.....18

I have fantasized about meeting a twin that I never knew I had. I have also experienced someone mistaking me for another person. This is a story in which a young cancer survivor mistakenly identifies a woman as her beloved nurse, because her face is identical to the nurse’s.

The Girl with the Pretty Face by Helen L. Leet.....20

A young mother and her son must face the challenges of starting a new life in Hoboken, N.J. While traveling, Timmy is mesmerized by a girl with a pretty face. This story combines a literal interpretation of face, and the verb of having to face a new challenge in life.

Face to Face by Katrina Martin.....22

My story illustrates the theme of faces against the backdrop of the Amazon rain forest. Two of the rainforest inhabitants interact: one as shaman, the other as jaguar. Through the medium of this written entry, their lives entwine, providing the reader with a compelling tale.

The Face Painter by Lynn Olcott.....23

Face painting is an ancient custom and honored talent. Face painters may be our next-door neighbors or beings from beyond sent to encourage us to talk about our lives.

A Reflection: I Know Your Face by Gerald E. Rehkugler.....24

An essay of angst about recognizing people’s faces and being unable to remember their names. Reflections about the relation of age, training, type of intelligence and time to success in remembering names. Illustrative personal anecdotal experiences included.

Portraits of Power by Martin A. Sweeney25

Because I have spent much time researching Homer’s portrait-maker Francis Bicknell Carpenter, when I hear the word “faces” I naturally think of Carpenter painting faces. I determined that I would attempt to channel Carpenter and give voice to his experiences in painting those, like Lincoln, who exercised great power.

Faces and Crayons by Jackie Yaman.....27

What has this story to do with “faces”? Everything. Racism persists. How? I believe we teach our children to look at the faces of others and judge. If more parents were to teach our children to look into the faces of others and appreciate our differences, perhaps this would change.

DRAMA: These plays can be read on our website at CortlandArtsChallenge.org

Maestro di Faccia by Michael Lipton

Maestro di Faccia is a dark comedy set in 15th c. Italy. Set in an artist's studio, it follows the lovelorn apprentice of the "Master of Faces" through a series of tragic events.

Yes or No? The Faces of Love by James Pfrehm

Love doesn't always come at face value. When we love someone, we fall for who they are and not "what" they are-even if that person is more complex than at first blush... Will the love last? You decide: YES or NO.