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SUBJ//NEW YEAR'S DAY DECK LOG POETRY CONTEST WINNERS FOR 2025//

POC/NHHC DECK LOG PROGRAM//LOC: WASHINGTON, DC/  
EMAIL: nhhc-decklogs(at)us.navy.mil//

RMKS/1. The Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC) is excited to announce the winners of the 2025 New Year's Day Deck Log Poetry Contest:

- a. First place: USS GETTYSBURG (CG-64), written by LT Mary Bolton.
- b. Second place: USS GRAVELY (DDG-107), written by ISC Casey Jones.
- c. Third place: USS ST. LOUIS (LCS-19), written by LT Victoria Cavazos.

2. Thank you to everyone that submitted entries for last year's contest. We look forward to reading your 2025 entries. The winning poems and author biographies can be found at

<https://www.history.navy.mil/research/archives/resources-for-the-fleet/deck-logs/new-years-contest.html>

3. The focus of the New Year's Day Deck Log contest was to celebrate the voices of our Sailors and to preserve a Navy tradition. A deck log is the official record maintained by all commissioned U.S. Navy vessels. While regulations normally restrict the types of entries in logbooks, the Navy has long held the tradition of the Midnight New Year's Poem. The first entry of the New Year, written in verse, allows Sailors to express their creativity about the experiences of shipboard life and their pride in their command. The contest also serves to remind the Fleet of the importance of the deck log as a historical document; one that preserves for future generations the actions and voices of our United States Sailors.

4. Congratulations to the winners, and we look forward to your entries next year!

5. For examples of poems and more information, see NHHC's website:  
<https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/nhhc/research/archives/resources-for-the-fleet/deck-logs/new-years-contest.html>

6. For questions, please contact the NHHC deck log program, email:  
NHHC-decklogs(at)us.navy.mil.

7. Released by VADM Michael E. Boyle, Director, Navy Staff.//

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