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SUBJ/NEW YEAR'S DAY DECK LOG POETRY CONTEST WINNERS FOR 2026//

RMKS/1. Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC) is excited to announce the winners of the 2026 New Year's Day Deck Log Poem Contest:

- a. USS TRUXTUN (DDG 103), written by ENS Dietrich Dressel.
- b. USS MAHAN (DDG 102), written by ENS Dane Farris.
- c. USS MICHAEL MONSOOR (DDG 1001), written by ENS Hanna Stanford.

2. The winning poems and author biographies can be found at <https://www.history.navy.mil/>.

3. The focus of the New Year's Day Deck Log contest is 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 The contest also serves to remind the Fleet of the importance of the deck log as a historical document; one that preserves for future generations the actions and voices of our Sailors.

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

5. For questions, please contact the NHHC Deck Log Program, email: NHHC-decklogs(at)us.navy.mil.

6. Released by Mr. Matthew H. Swartz, Director, Navy Staff.//

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