

---

# ***First Place, Poetry, Grades 10-12***

***“she grows up a halo,” Nora Cornell***

she grows up a halo,  
she grows up a lantern.  
she lives in planetariums  
and never stopped  
reaching for the heavens.

the sky is her friend,  
taught her mother  
(who had friends in the grass).

she must stand at the edge,  
climb the mountains and run,  
to get closer to the stars.

so she learns the lessons of rooftops,  
of chimney sweeps and charity,  
of scraped knees and supermen.

so she stands,  
and waits,  
and learns  
to fly.

*Nora Cornell is in 10th grade at The Blake School. When not writing poems, Nora is a theater kid with a penchant for storytelling. She loves learning all sorts of things and cuddling with her two cats.*