

Arts and Humanities Commission

2016 Writing Contest

First Place

Division – Adult

Category – Poem

“Sweet Dreams”

by Carol Rosalia Cardenes-Gramaldi

SWEET DREAMS

As my children sleep

In my thoughts I paint their future

With my own dreams

I see them becoming successful and bright

I watch them as I pray for their protection

I want to shield them, want to show them

How to survive in life

Oh, how much I want them to avoid any pain

Any suffering or failure

As my children sleep, I look at them

Hands are sprawled all over the sheets

Like butterflies displaying their wings

My children dream

Dreams different from mine

My little boy is sweating and turns around

His body impatient, busy and agitated in his sleep

Living adventures, running free as he dreams

Turns around and faces me, his eyes tightly closed

Hair curled around his head, I gently stroke his hair

I smell the freshness of him

Feel the warmth of his body

The innocence, the courage

Angelic sight of my little boy

He feels I am here, close to him

He knows

My girl smiles and dreams

This smile is not for me

My girl is not a baby anymore

Becoming so pretty, so nice and kind

Elegant and tall

She sighs and she smiles

I wonder who or what is accompanying her

Capturing her as she dreams

My children

Crown of my life

Dreaming in the middle of the night.