



THE FIRST HEBREW POEM TO BE RECITED IN SPACE THE DAVID AVIDAN YOUTH POETRY CONTEST

The Rakia mission is going to be launched in February 2022, with Eytan Stibbe, the second Israeli in space, launching to the International Space Station. What will he be doing there? Reciting poetry of course! The contemporary Hebrew literature journal Hava Lehaba, together with the Ramon Foundation and the Israeli Space Agency in the Ministry of Innovation, Science and Technology and the Ministry of Education, hereby announce a poetry contest in memory of the Late Poet David Avidan. The winning poem is going to be the first Hebrew poem ever to be recited in space.

“**We might as well do it in grand style**”, wrote David Avidan (who claimed he was an alien from the Planet Avidanium that had landed in Tel Aviv). This is your chance to reach as far and as wide as humanly possible: to write the poem which will be recited by the second Israeli in space while he floats in microgravity orbiting the Earth at 25,000 km/h.

All high school students (grades 10-12) from anywhere in the country are welcome to take part in the contest. Three poems are going to be selected by a professional panel of judges (according to preset criteria). The poems will be published in the next issue of Hava Lehaba. Eytan Stibbe will recite the winning poem from the International Space Station. The poem will be entering the history books as the first Hebrew poem ever to have been recited in space.



The theme for the contest is - “Perspective”.

What does this mean?

It means that writing about galaxies or about Saturn’s rings is not a must (although it is perfectly acceptable, of course). Space allows us to take a fresh look at our Earth, to long for it, to reassess and cherish what we have left behind. There are times when unrequited love or consuming jealousy of the neighboring desk can seem like a lightyears-size chasm. Sometimes we recede from ourselves at the speed of light.

This is why the contest has no fixed rules. The universe has already got all the rules figured out, all issues covered. The only thing we require is that you write from a distance, from a bird’s eye view, or from aboard a spaceship.

SUBMIT THE POEMS YOU WRITE - HEBREW ONLY (NO NEED TO PUNCTUATE), UP TO 20 LINES LONG (A ROUNDABOUT) - THROUGH THE FOLLOWING LINK:

>>SUBMIT FILES<<

IN A WORD FILE AND WITH NO IDENTIFYING DETAILS IN THE DOCUMENT BODY

**WRITING FOR THE DESK DRAWER?
HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO BLAST OFF INTO SPACE!**

