

# CALLING ALL POETS!

**You are hereby invited to submit poems to be considered for inclusion in the forthcoming publication *Nelsonville from A to Z*, a project to benefit the Stuart's Opera House Arts Education Program. This book is intended for sale by Nelsonville merchants and the Stuart's Opera House gift shop.**

**The Project:** *Nelsonville from A to Z* will be an alphabet picture book, in which each letter will represent a place in and around Nelsonville, Ohio. Each page will show the alphabet letter, the name of the place the letter represents, a very brief prose description of the named place, an original watercolor illustration (Hannah Sickles, local artist, is to provide the illustrations), **and**—a short poem inspired by the named place.

**The Content:** A list of the places the alphabet letters will stand for is below.

## **Guidelines for Poems:**

- Each poem should be related to one of the places named by the alphabet book. It is not required that the poem describe the place itself, although it can—it can deal with your feelings about the place, the history of the place, how area residents react to the place, and so on.
- Poems can use any format, rhymed or unrhymed.
- Poems must be no more than 20 lines long, in order to allow for placement on the page.
- Submission deadline is February 28, 2019.
- You may submit more than one poem.
- There is no monetary reward if your poem is selected; however, all poets whose work appears in the book will be listed on the contributors' page.
- Submit poems to Celeste Parsons, editor, either by email at [headwinds.hill@gmail.com](mailto:headwinds.hill@gmail.com), or by sending a hard copy to 15085 Wolfe-Bennett Road, Nelsonville, OH 45764.
- Questions can be sent to the above email address.

Thank you for considering this project, and happy writing!

**Scroll down for the Alphabetized list.**

# NELSONVILLE

from

A to Z



Nelsonville from A to Z Project  
Stuart's Opera House

### **1 A is for Appalachian Ohio**

The hills, hollers, and people that surround us.

### **2 B is for Bricks**

Bricks made in Nelsonville include Nelsonville Block and Star Brick pavers, used for sidewalks and streets in town and shipped all over the Midwest.

### **3 C is for Canal**

The Hocking Canal, completed in 1843, linked Athens, Chauncey, Nelsonville, and Logan to Lancaster, and ran through town where Canal Street is now.

### **4 D is for Dew House**

Thomas Dew built the Dew House in 1830 as a hotel and tavern. Theodore Roosevelt spoke from the porch in 1912 when he was campaigning for president.

### **5 E is for Education**

Daniel Nelson, who founded Nelsonville in 1818, dedicated the lot for the first school in 1856.

### **6 F is for Fountain**

The iron fountain in the center of the Public Square was built in 1904.

### **7 G is for Good Vibrations**

Whether it's one of the 60+ bands playing at the Nelsonville Music Fest, or someone playing on his own front porch, music is all around.

### **8 H is for Hocking River**

The Hocking River runs past Nelsonville on its way to the Ohio River. It is shallow and floods frequently, but offers recreation for canoes and kayaks.

### **9 I is for Initial Rocks**

Generations of Nelsonville young people carved their initials into these boulders, located northeast of town.

### **10 J is for John Hunt Morgan**

Confederate General John Hunt Morgan passed through Nelsonville on Wednesday, July 22, 1863. He took fresh horses and asked local women to feed his men supper, but spared canalboats from burning.

### **11 K is for Kilns**

A kiln is a large furnace where bricks were baked. The ruins of the kilns of the Nelsonville Brick Company, which closed in 1937, are on Rt. 278 (near the city offices)

### **12 L is for Lock**

A Lock was a little piece of a canal with a gate at each end. By "locking" the gates around a canalboat and then letting more water in, the boat could be raised up higher. This meant a canal could go over a hill! Lock 19 of the Hocking Canal is just north of Nelsonville, but the gates are long gone.

### **13 M is for Mines**

The mines all around made Nelsonville the largest town in the area in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. -Men mined both coal and clay.

**14 N is for Nelson Log House**

Originally built on the southwest corner of the Public Square in 1814 by town founder Daniel Nelson, this house has been moved three times. During the final move from 81 Fayette Street to 87-89 Fayette Street, the center of what had been a double log cabin was removed so that the home would fit the smaller lot.

**15 O is for Outdoor Art**

A building wall can lead to more than one place.

**16 P is for Public Square**

The land donated by Daniel Nelson in 1823 quickly became the center of business and social gatherings.

**17 Q is for Quandary**

A Quandary is what you are in when you don't know what to do.

**18 R is for Railroad**

Railroad reliability put an end to the canals, which needed lots of maintenance. Now the Hocking Scenic Railway gives tour rides on the rails that once hauled freight.

**19 S is for Stuart's Opera House**

Hear a band, see a play, hold a wedding, take music lessons—it's all been happening at Stuart's since 1879.

**20 T is for Trails**

Trails for walking, biking, or off-road vehicles are all found in the area.

**21 U is for Underwater.**

Every now and then, the Hocking River overflows, as it did in 1907.

**22 V is for Vitalize**

It's a new sidewalk, built on the past.

**23 W is for Wildflowers**

In the woods, meadows, or along roads, seasons are marked by the changing blooms.

**24 X is for Robbins Xing**

Visit this collection of log cabins on the Hocking College campus, to see what life was like in the 1850s.

**25 Y is for Yesterday**

Nelsonville honors its heritage with murals on walls of some local businesses, special window displays, and the quiet peacefulness of Fort Street Cemetery.

**26 Z is for Zig-Zag**

Whether you are traveling on road or water, your route will wind through our hills!