



Entertainment

Style Invitational Week 1205: Here, at least, you can take a do-over

Enter any of the past year's contests; plus winning Tour de Fours neologisms



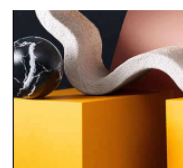
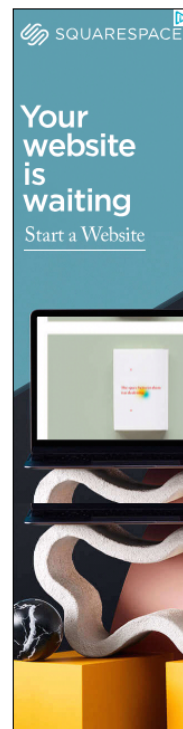
Can you come up with a food pun as funny as Jon Gearhart's "Phlegm in Meringue Pie"? Give it (or any of 50 other previous contests) a go. (Bob Staake/For The Washington Post)



By **Pat Myers** Editor and judge of The Style Invitational December 8, 2016
[Email the author](#)

(Click [here to skip down](#) to the winning Tour de Fours neologisms)

The winner of Week 1173, food puns:



Most Read **Entertainment**

- 1 First glimpse of Kennedy Center's much delayed expansion unveiled



Phlegm in meringue pie: What you get when you're nasty to your waitress. (Jon Gearhart)

Winner of Week 1162, Onion-style headlines:

ISIS Now Offering Tote Bag With 5-Year Membership (Neal Starkman)

Winner of Week 1161, bogus trivia about politicians: 'To add some levity to his second inauguration, President Clinton added "in bed" under his breath to the phrases he repeated taking the oath of office.' (Jeff Shirley)

At least with The Style Invitational, if you really screwed it up the first time, you can try it again without having to wait till 2020: Our annual retrospective contest lets you enter one or more contests from the past year. Not surprisingly, the Empress is overrun each year with worthy entries spanning the scope of some 50 contests, and so this year, for the first time, you get *two* chances:



"This text has no other purpose than to terrify those who are afraid of the Arabic language." (Pat Myers/The Washington Post)





This week AND next week: Enter (or re-enter) any Style Invitational contest from Week 1149 to 1201, except for Week 1152, last year's do-over contest. (Next week you can also try Week 1202.) You may enter more than one contest as long as you don't submit more than 25 entries in all. For contests asking you to use that week's paper, use papers and online articles dated Dec. 8-19. For the obit poems, continue to write about people who died in 2015.

Yes, you may resubmit non-inking entries from earlier contests.

How to find all these contests: Go to washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational and click on each contest (click on View More if you stop seeing contests). See this week's Style Conversational column for other options. And be sure to check the results of that week's contest (usually four weeks later) to make sure your idea didn't already get ink. Be sure to give the week number of the contest you're using.

"This text has no other purpose than to terrify those who are afraid of the Arabic language."

Other runners-up win their choice of the yearned-for ["This Is Your Brain on Mugs"](#) Loser mug or our Grossery Bag, ["I Got a B in Punmanship."](#) Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, ["Magnet Dum Laude"](#) or ["Falling Jest Short."](#) First Offenders receive a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" ([FirStink](#) for their first ink). Deadline is Monday night, Dec. 19; results published Jan. 8 (online Jan. 5). You may submit up to 25 entries per contest. See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline for this week's results is by Beverley Sharp; the honorable-mentions subhead is by Jesse Frankovich. Join the lively Style

- 2 Celebrities, fashion insiders react to death of Kate Spade 
- 3 **Perspective**
President Trump's power to pardon himself, as skewered by cartoons 
- 4 Oprah Winfrey picks prison memoir for her book club 
- 5 **Analysis**
Do the dismal box-office returns of 'Solo' signal a problem for Star Wars? 



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Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev. “Like” the Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at bit.ly/inkofday; follow [@StyleInvite](https://twitter.com/StyleInvite) on Twitter.

The Style Conversational The Empress’s weekly online column, published late Thursday afternoon, discusses each new contest and set of results. Especially if you plan to enter, check it out at wapo.st/styleconv.

[And from The Style Invitational four weeks ago . . .](#)

JEST FOUR FUN: THE WINNING ‘TOUR DE FOURS’ NEOLOGISMS

Week 1201 was our annual Tour de Fours neologism contest, in which you coin a new term that includes a block of four given letters — this week, **OVEN** — in any order, but with no other letters between them. Many in the Greater Loser Community found ways to lament the events of this past **NOVE**mber.

4th place

Menevolent: Beneficial only to the male half of the population. “Our boss is positively menevolent with the arctic thermostat settings in the office.” (Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station, Va.)

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3rd place

Wonton Eve: Traditional night before Christmas for Jewish families. (Jeff Shirley, Richmond, Va.)

2nd place

and the [cow-spotted ceramic mug with an udder](#):

Venommmm: Something you know is very bad for you but tastes oh so very good. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village, Md.)

And the winner of the Inkin’ Memorial:

Havenous: Desperate for more and more acquisitions. “Vicky’s still shopping — we went by Tiffany’s and she got all havenous.” (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

Fair ENOV: honorable mentions

Nov-embers: What’s left of many people’s hope after the election. (Andy Promisel, Fairfax, Va.)

Intravenous de Milo: Tragic victim of Greece’s first blood drive. (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

Swine eyes: Herbiologists order eggs sunny-side-up. (Jan Cookhart, Dec

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Supine ova: How biologists order eggs sunny side up. (Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

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RefuseToMoveOn.org: Perhaps a better name for the sender of those recount petitions. (Annette Green, Lexington, Va.)

L'oven spoonful: That last bite of raw dough before you bake the cookies. (Cindi Rae Caron, Blowing Rock, N.C.)

Heaven on Deck: Purgatory. (Steve Fahey, Kensington, Md.)

Beano Evil: The fourth wise monkey, depicted with his hands over his rear end. (Chris Doyle)

Big Apple Turnover: The requisite chaos whenever our new president comes home for the weekend. (Nathanael Dewhurst, Lynn, Mass.)

Cup o' Venom: Instant lunch at the Breitbart cafeteria. (Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.)

Everyone v. Donald J. Trump: Future class action? (Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.)

Evonka Holdings: Suspiciously named firm designated to manage the "blind trust." (David Ballard, Reston, Va.)

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IV-oenophile: An extreme wine lover. (Jack McBroom, Fort Valley, Va.)

Oenovile: A connoisseur of Ripple. (Chris Doyle)

Molotov enema: When a gentle laxative just isn't doing the trick. (Gordon Cobb, Marietta, Ga.)

No-Environment: The mission of the next EPA chief? (William Joyner, Chapel Hill, N.C.)

Novellatweet: All 140 characters. (Dudley Thompson, Cary, N.C.)

Ovenator: Me during menopause (according to my husband). (Cindi Rae Caron)

#HaveNoShame: Hashtag appropriated daily by the next administration. (William Joyner)

Vote, then vomit: Exorcise your franchise! (Dudley Thompson)

Slovenial: Type of pardonable sin, such as posing in the nude, working without the night vice, etc. (Ann Martin, Falls Church, Va.)

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Pornoverse: A huge enterprise that would be nothing without the big bang. (Jesse Frankovich)

Ten over: What comes right before “You’re fired” in a message from Donald’s divorce lawyer. (Nan Reiner, Boca Raton, Fla.)

Local Headlines newsletter

Important local stories in D.C., Va. and Md., around 8 a.m. on weekdays.

Sign up

Venomenon: A prodigy at nastiness. “Little Donnie has already cursed out all the other kindergartners — and the teacher, too.” (Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn.)

And Last: **Neovite:** A Style Invitational First Offender. (Jeff Hazle, San Antonio; Kevin Dopart, Washington; Rob Cohen, Potomac, Md.)

Still running — deadline Monday night, Dec. 12: Our contest for “silver linings” to comfort (or “comfort”) someone who’s less than thrilled about last month’s election results. See bit.ly/invite-1204.

0 Comments



Pat Myers is editor and judge of The Style Invitational, The Washington Post’s page for clever, edgy humor and wordplay. In the role since December 2003, she has posted and judged more than 700 contests. She also writes the weekly Style Conversational column and runs the Style Invitational Devotees page on Facebook. [Follow @patmyersTWP](#)

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