

## BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

Each of the 24 students chosen by the judges receives recognition in the media, at their schools, and at an awards ceremony at the Prestige Inn in Salmon Arm on May 20, 2017.

Each student receives a small cash prize and a personalized journal to encourage future writing. These are presented at the awards ceremony after the students have an opportunity to share their poem or story.

All students who choose to enter the contest gain a sense of achievement and an understanding of the necessity of effort and editing to complete an entry on time. These are important skills for immersing writers.

Following the awards ceremony, students 12-18 are invited to have a 15 minute 1-to-1 session with an author or editor.

## BENEFITS TO TEACHERS

Where appropriate, the contest can be an opportunity for creative writing projects to be honed for contest entries. In more than one survey students have said that recognition is one of the main reasons they enter the contest. "Better writing" is another.

## BENEFITS TO PARENTS

Parents can help their child with a passion for writing to enter. Gentle encouragement helps the young writer to take the story or poem to completion, make careful edits, and mail it in on time.

## BENEFITS TO SCHOOLS

Each school and teacher in School Districts #83 and #22 is given recognition for the number of entries.

## WHO CAN ENTER

All students 5-18 (at the end of 2017) in School District #83 & 22.

### FOUR AGE GROUPS:

5 – 8

9 – 11

12 – 14

15 - 18

### SUBMISSIONS:

#### **Poetry:**

**All age groups** One poem. One Page. No graphics.

Any style. Title at top

Plain white paper

Clear, plain font

Or clear hand-writing.

#### **Story:**

**5 – 8**

Maximum **500** words. No minimum.

Plain white paper, plain. Size 11 font

or clear writing. Double spaced

No graphics. Titles on all story pages.

**Story:**

**9 – 11** Maximum **500** words. No minimum  
Plain white paper. Simple Size 11 font  
or clear writing. Double spaced  
No graphics. Titles on all story pages

**Story:**

**12- 14** Maximum **700** words. No minimum.  
Plain white paper. Simple Size 11 font  
or clear writing. Double spaced  
No graphics. Titles on all story pages.

**Story:**

**15 – 18** Maximum **1000** words. No minimum.  
Plain white paper. Simple Size 11 font  
or clear writing. Double spaced  
No graphics. Titles on all story pages

**IMPORTANT:** No Names on the stories or poems. Blind judging.

**Cover pages essential.**

Each student can submit ONE STORY and ONE POEM but  
each must have a separate cover page.

Multiple entries may be sent in one envelope but each must have  
a separate cover page.

*Information on cover pages is kept confidential.*

# COVER PAGE FORMAT

**YEAR OF BIRTH**

## **Name**

(First, Last)

## **Story or Poem**

(Indicate)

## **Title**

(Helpful to judges if more than one word)

Note: Put title on each page of story

## **Phone**

## **Email**

(When available)

## **School or Home School**

(When applicable, for recognition)

## **Teacher**

(If work is teacher inspired, for recognition.)

A cover page is needed for each entry.

**Contest opens January 3, 2017**

**\*Contest Deadline: Tuesday, April 11, 2017\***

(That's 3 days before Good Friday)

## **POSTMARKED**

NOTIFICATION OF WINNERS:

Early May

AWARDS DAY:

May 20

## **HOW TO ENTER:**

Attach a cover page with required information to each story or poem. Note maximum word allowance.

Schools or individuals can send multiple entries in one envelope but each must have a cover page.

Check that story submissions do not exceed word counts.

Check that there are no names on the story or poem.

## **MAIL TO:**

Young Writers' Contest

Box 1134

Salmon Arm, BC

V1E4P3

## **No email entries.**

Go to <http://www.shuswapassociationofwriters.ca/kidswrite-young-writers-contest>

for more details.

- Writing improvement suggestions
- Pictures from previous years
- Winners of 2016
- Explanation of Shuswap Association of Writers mandate
- Contact us

## WHAT ARE THE JUDGES LOOKING FOR?

The primary focus points are creativity, use of words and description, and originality. Though grammar and spelling are important, these can be fixed, the creative aspect is most important.

## **Contest Deadline**

**Tuesday, April 11, 2017 (Postmarked)**