



Texas High Plains Writers **2017 YOUTH** **WRITING CONTEST**

The 2017 Youth Writing Contest is open to students from grades 3 through 12. Entries will be judged in the following grade level groups:

Short Story:

Category #SS3-4	Grades 3-4	Maximum 3 pages
Category #SS5-6	Grades 5-6	Maximum 4 pages
Category #SS7-8	Grades 7-8	Maximum 4 pages
Category #SS9-10	Grades 9-10	Maximum 5 pages
Category #SS11-12	Grades 11-12	Maximum 5 pages

Poetry:

Category #P3-4	Grades 3-4	Maximum 12 lines
Category #P5-6	Grades 5-6	Maximum 16 lines
Category #P7-8	Grades 7-8	Maximum 16 lines
Category #P9-10	Grades 9-10	Maximum 20 lines
Category #P11-12	Grades 11-12	Maximum 20 lines

Memoir (your own experience written in first person):

Category #M3-4	Grades 3-4	Maximum 2 pages
Category #M5-6	Grades 5-6	Maximum 3 pages
Category #M7-8	Grades 7-8	Maximum 3 pages
Category #M9-10	Grades 9-10	Maximum 4 pages
Category #M11-12	Grades 11-12	Maximum 4 pages

2017 YOUTH CONTEST RULES

These rules can be found on the Youth Writing Contest page at www.panhandleprowriters.org.

The following rules apply to all entries.

- 1. DEADLINE** for entries is MAY 5, 2017. Entries must be submitted via the United States Postal Service and postmarked no later than MAY 5, 2017. Mail entries to Janet Taylor, Texas High Plains Writers Youth Writing Contest, P. O. Box 19303, Amarillo, Texas 79114-1303.
- 2. SUBMIT** one (1) copy of the entry (must be an original, unpublished work by the student).
- 3. PUT** your name on the Contest Entry Form, NOT on the entry itself. **The author's name on any part of the entry means immediate disqualification.**
- 4. A SEPARATE** Contest Entry Form is required for each entry submission. Multiple submissions may be mailed in one envelope to save on postage.
- 5. INCLUDE** a Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope ("SASE") (an envelope addressed to the student) with the mailed entry(ies). The SASE should be the same size and postage amount as the envelope the entry(ies) was mailed in. The SASE will be used to return the judged entry(ies) and the judge's comments to the student. Entries submitted without an SASE **will not** be returned to the student. **NO METERED MAIL.** Teachers may mail multiple students' entries in one envelope, *but a SASE for each student must be included.*
- 6. ENTRIES** should be printed on one side of 8½" x 11" white paper using black Times New Roman 12 point font. No colored ink, please.
- 7. TYPE** the title on the first page of your poem, short story, or memoir. On the second page and on each following page, type the title and page number in the upper right corner.
Example: Title/Page #
- 8. SHORT STORY and MEMOIR** entries must be double-spaced with 1" margins on all four sides. The title should be on the first page and centered. DO NOT include a separate title page. A title page would count as a page of your entry.
- 9. POEMS** may be either centered on the page or flush with the left margin. If the poem is centered, the title should be centered. If the poem is flush with the left margin, the title should be flush with the left margin. Lines are single-spaced. Double space between stanzas.

Parents and Teachers: Reading a student's entry and making suggestions is acceptable and encouraged. However, corrections and rewrites are the student's responsibility. If the student is comfortable with his entry, do not force changes or make them yourself. It is the student's efforts that are being judged, not yours.

Published authors will judge entries. *An invitation to the July 15, 2017, awards ceremony will be **emailed only to those students receiving an award.** PLEASE NOTE:* Please **neatly print** your email address on the Contest Entry Form. If you don't have an email address, ask a friend, relative, or teacher if you can use theirs. If your teacher would like to be notified that you have been sent an emailed invitation, include their name and email address in the blank provided on the Contest Entry Form.

SUBMISSION CHECKLIST:

- Completed separate Contest Entry Form for each submission, signed by the student and a parent or guardian. (Students 18 or over are not required to have a parent or guardian sign the entry form.)
- Entry submission(s).
- SASE with proper postage. (NO METERED MAIL.)
- Mail to: JANET TAYLOR
TEXAS HIGH PLAINS WRITERS YOUTH WRITING CONTEST
P. O. BOX 19303
AMARILLO, TX 79114-1303

TEXAS HIGH PLAINS WRITERS 2017 YOUTH WRITING CONTEST

This entry form can be found on the Youth Writing Contest page at www.panhandleprowriters.org.

CONTEST ENTRY FORM

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____ Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Evening Phone # _____ Email _____

School _____ Grade _____ Age _____

Title of your Short Story, Memoir, or Poem _____

Teacher's email address (if applicable): _____

Check category entered (refer to front of brochure)

- SS3-4
- SS5-6
- SS7-8
- SS9-10
- SS11-12

- P3-4
- P5-6
- P7-8
- P9-10
- P11-12

- M3-4
- M5-6
- M7-8
- M9-10
- M11-12

CONTEST AGREEMENT

I submit my entry and agree to be bound by the stated contest rules. I certify that this is my own original work and not the work of another person. My signature certifies that I have read the rules and agree to be bound by the rules of the contest. IF UNDER 18 years of age, my parent or guardian has read the rules and agrees to the conditions and rules. I understand that my entry cannot be accepted without my signature and my parent or guardian's signature.

Student's signature **Date** _____

Parent or Guardian's Signature **Date** _____

To be filled out by THPW:

Judge: _____ SASE: _____ Number: _____