

Information for Teachers

Contest Entry Forms

- The entry forms provided in this pack may be photocopied to make more entry forms. Or you may print out forms from our web site.
- Each poem must have a completed Young Writers' student entry form attached to it.
- Each envelope of entries you send in must contain a school entry form.

Contest Entry Rules

- Poems must have a fully completed student entry form attached.
- Any subject or style of poem is acceptable.
- Contest is in two categories:
7-12 years and 13-18 years.
- There is no entry fee.
- Poems should be typed or handwritten on one side of 8 ½ x 11 paper.
Work must be legible or it will be returned.
- Only one poem per student may be submitted.
- Poems must be no longer than 24 lines.
- Poems must be the young writer's own work.

How to Enter the Contest

Please staple the completed student entry form at the top of each poem, with the young writer's name, age, address and school address showing. Put all the entries into an envelope along with one completed school entry form, and send to Young Writers Contest, P.O. Box 5577, Victoria, BC V8R 6S4. Deadline for mailing is **NOVEMBER 7, 2008**.

Young writers whose work is selected for publication will be notified by letter.

Parents of accepted entrants will be asked to sign an Author's Release form to confirm that the poem is the child's own work. (Copyright of the poem always belongs to the author of the work).

Judging and selecting work for publication will be the responsibility of the Young Writers' editorial team.

School Prizes

Awarded nationally: First prize \$500 to the school sending in the best group of entries (for each age group); \$100 each to three second place schools; \$50 each to three school runners-up; and Awards of Excellence. A free book will be available by request to schools that send in 5 or more poems.

A **COMPUTER** will be awarded as a bonus prize, to the school that sends in the most acceptable entries.

A free book will be sent to all schools that have a prize winning student.

Young Writer's Prizes

Awarded regionally: Students: \$50 First prize for the best poem in each region, and a free book; \$10 each to three runners-up (for each region); and Awards of Excellence. Young Writers whose poems are accepted for publication will receive a certificate to mark their achievement.

Prizes are awarded when all books have been published.

Editorial Policy

Our aim is to encourage children to read, write and enjoy poetry. Our editorial team uses a range of criteria when selecting poems for publication. Imagination and expression of ideas and feelings are given as much importance as good use of language. The age of the young writer is also taken into consideration. The young writer's age when the poem was written, and the name of their school, are printed below each poem in the finished book. We publish the best poems received each year.

Testimonials from Teachers

We greatly appreciate the opportunity you afford us through the Young Writers competition. We find it an extremely worthwhile exercise and the students truly enjoy and benefit from the experience. Thank you for all your efforts to encourage young Canadians to develop their skills.

*Ruth S. (Principal)
Whitefield Christian Schools, ON*

I received the anthologies yesterday. They look great (very professional), and my students are thrilled! Thank you for giving my students, and young Canadians in general, this empowering opportunity!

*Jennifer M.
Sir Charles Tupper Secondary School, BC*

I love your contest and have had students published in the past two years. It's such an exciting moment for them. I love the excitement when the students get the book and they're published in it! It's so rewarding! Thanks so much!

*Lisa O.
Worthington Public School, ON*