

Announcing
The Harford County Reading Council's
29th Annual Young Authors Writing Contest
SHORT STORY/ESSAY &
POETRY

The Young Author's Writing Committee is proud to announce the opportunity for students to write a short story/essay or poem on any topic or theme.
Each student may submit only one writing piece to the committee for judging.

**** DUE to teachers by Dec. 18th ****

Join us in making this year a special year of celebrating writing as we recognize our Harford County young authors! What a wonderful opportunity for all students to have an authentic and engaging purpose for writing as well as a forum for celebrating and publicizing their work and efforts in writing.



1. All entries must be the student's original work. Teachers are asked not to revise or give revision ideas.
2. At the secondary level, each language arts teacher may submit 2 short stories and 2 poetry entries per class and/or grade level in one class. (For example: **If you teach 3 different English classes, you could submit 6 pieces. Or if in one class, you have 9th and 10th graders, you could submit 4 pieces for that class.**)
3. All entries should be typed. Please advise students to save copies. Winners only will submit the electronic copy at a later date.
4. For **high school and middle school** entries, the length should not exceed 3 typed pages (with single, double, or 1 ½ spacing). The font FOR WINNING ENTRIES sent to the state can be either **Times New Roman or Comic Sans** with 12 point size.
5. ***THIS YEAR*** AGAIN the included submission **form must be completed** (pg. #3 - Middle School & pg. #4 - High School). It **must be stapled at the back** of each entry facing out. The story can be stapled if it's more than one page. Reminder: An electronic copy must be submitted for all **FIRST** place winning entries (**they can be sent later**). Do **NOT** include student names anywhere on the writing.
6. Each entry will be judged by a group of Harford County teachers. Please remind students of school appropriate language and content for school. Inappropriate pieces will be eliminated.

IMPORTANT Reminder!

TEACHERS: Please make a copy of each piece of writing you submit for judging, as the entries will not be returned.

**ALL contest entries sent to Judging Committee by:
Friday, December 18, 2009**

DUE DATE: Tuesday, December 22, 2009

Late entries will not be accepted.

SEND ENTRIES TO the following:

(6th - 8th): **Bridget Berends @Aberdeen Middle School**

(9th - 12th): **Terri Wainwright @ Bel Air High School**

Suggested Scoring Rubric for Middle and High School WRITING FOR PERSONAL EXPRESSION

The original story/essay is an effective and well-developed piece that fulfills the writing purpose, and therefore . . .

- Has relevant and complete support and elaboration to enhance ideas
- Uses deliberate and effective organizational strategies and structures
- Maintains a distinctive voice and deliberate tone
- Uses precise word choice and evocative language
- Demonstrates careful attention to audience's understanding and interest
- Has no significant errors in usage or conventions



State Of Maryland International
Reading Association Council

YOUNG AUTHORS CONTEST SoMIRAC 2009-2010 Middle School COVER SHEET

<u>Student/Author's Name:</u>	<u>Student's full name (as it should appear in the publication)</u>
<u>Student/Author's Home Address:</u>	<u>(street, city, state, zip)</u>
<u>Student/Author's Home Phone:</u>	
<u>Email Address:</u>	
<u>School Name/ Address:</u>	
<u>Grade:</u>	<u>Grade:</u>
<u>Teacher: First/Last Name</u>	<u>Mr., Mrs., Ms (circle one)</u>
<u>Teacher Email:</u>	
<u>Local Reading Council:</u>	<u>Harford County Reading Council</u>
<u>Title of Entry:</u>	<u>Title:</u> <u>Circle one: POEM SHORT STORY/ESSAY</u>

Permission for Publication

I, _____, give permission for
Print Parent first and last name

SoMIRAC representatives to reproduce my child's work in an anthology of writing, in the event my child becomes a State Winner.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____



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SoMIRAC 2009-2010

High School Young Authors Contest Submission Form *Harford County*

Please print or type all information. Submissions will not be considered without this form completed in its entirety.

Author's Name: _____

Student's full name (as it should appear in the publication)

Author's Home Address: _____

(Street Address)

(City, State, Zip Code)

Author's Phone Number: _____

Author's Email Address: _____

School Name: _____ **Grade level:** _____

(complete name; no abbreviations)

(2008-09)

Teacher (submitting the entry): _____

(First and Last Name)

Teacher's Email Address: _____

Title of Entry: _____

Category of Entry (check one): Short Story/Essay _____ Poem _____

Permission for Publication

I, _____, give permission for SoMIRAC representatives to reproduce my work in an anthology of writing. I represent and warrant I have full and unrestricted right to grant permission, **and the above listed work is original and does not infringe on the copyright (or any other proprietary right) of any person.**

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

*Please submit this original signed document with the hard copy and electronic file of the literary submission to your English teacher. **(All first place pieces)** will be submitted to the state electronically, so SAVE your work.)*

ANNOUNCING

SoMIRAC's 2009 - 2010










Young Authors Writing Contest

Who: Students in Grades 6-12

What: Write a Poem or Short
Story/Essay



-  **Entries must be original work.**
-  **All entries with 12 point font using either Times New Roman or Comic Sans font.**
-  **Short story/essay entry may range from a minimum of two (2) paragraphs to no more than three (3) typed pages (double spaced).**
-  **Each poem entry will consist of a single poem, which may be any style or length.**
-  **Entries must not include graphics.**
-  **NO NAMES on writing piece!**
-  **Include a completed "Cover Sheet" signed by the student author, parent, and sponsoring teacher.**

For additional details and guidelines contact your teacher

Entries due by Friday, December 18, 2009

Promoting Literacy in Maryland since 1972