



West Virginia Writers, Inc. 2021 Annual Writing Contest

CASH PRIZES IN EVERY CATEGORY

FIRST PLACE - \$200 • SECOND PLACE - \$100 • THIRD PLACE - \$50

Competition Category Descriptions

- # ___ **Poetry** (Up to four pages in length) Poetry in any form.
- # ___ **Short Story** (up to 5,000 words) Fiction.
- # ___ **Nonfiction** (Up to 5,000 words) Article, essay, or memoir.
- # ___ **Emerging Writers Prose** (Up to 5,000 words) Specify fiction or nonfiction.
- # ___ **Emerging Writers Poetry** (Up to four pages) *The F. Ethan Fischer Memorial Poetry Award*. Any poetry form.
- # ___ **Middle Grade Books** (Three chapters, or up to 5,000 words and one-page synopsis)
- # ___ **Social Change** (Up to 5,000 words) *The Pearl S. Buck Award* (supported by the Pearl S. Buck Birthplace Foundation). Fiction, Nonfiction, or poetry, on a topic related to social change.
- # ___ **Stage Play** (Up to 30 pages in standard stage play format. If full play is over 30 pages, send additional 1-page synopsis of whole stage play.) *The Joe McCabe Memorial Script Award*.

PLEASE NOTE: Entry fees for the category below is \$20.

- # ___ **Book Length Prose** (Up to 7,500 words and a 1-page synopsis)

We prefer electronic submissions OF WORD DOCUMENTS via email to the Contest Coordinator, Carter Seaton. Attach this entry form, your receipt from PayPal, and the entry without your name on it. Send all three documents to wvcontest@gmail.com.

Name _____	TOTAL # OF ENTRIES: _____ X \$15 = \$ _____
Address _____	TOTAL # OF ENTRIES _____ X \$20 = \$ _____
City/State/Zip _____	LATE FEES (March 15-31, \$5 PER manuscript) = \$ _____
County _____	DONATION FOR NEW MOUNTAIN VOICES STUDENT WRITING CONTEST \$ _____
Phone _____	MEMBERSHIP (Required if not a WV resident) \$ _____
Email _____	TOTAL ENCLOSED
	If mailing, enclose check or money order payable to \$ _____ WV Writers, Inc.

By signing below, I certify I have read and met all eligibility requirements.

Membership options (check all that apply)

Gold: \$50 ___ Silver: \$35 ___ Adult: \$25 ___
Student: \$10 ___ Under 18: \$5 ___

Signature _____

Date: _____

- ___ Current Year (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)
- ___ Next Year (July 1, 2021, – June 30, 2022)
- ___ I am already a member of WVW, Inc.
- ___ Electronic newsletter instead of mailed, please

If you'd like a winners' list emailed to local media, what is the email address we should send to?

OFFICIAL WRITING CONTEST RULES



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SUBMISSIONS: We prefer electronic entries **IN WORD FORMAT via email**. All entries must include a completed entry form, a copy of your PayPal receipt, and your submission **without** your name on it. All three must be attached to the email and sent to wwwcontest@gmail.com.

For mailed entries, fill out and mail this form with your check or money order to the address below. (Credit cards, cash, and electronic payments are NOT accepted for mailed entries.) Only one entry form per person is necessary. **Entry fees are \$15 per entry for all categories but Book Length Fiction, which is \$20. Entry fees are not refundable.**

DEADLINE: Entries are accepted from January 4 through March 14, 2021 (postmark used for mailed entries). **Late Entry Deadline:** If submitted online or mailed between March 15 and March 31, 2021, add \$5.00 fee per manuscript.

ELIGIBILITY: Contest is open to WV residents and current members of WVV, Inc. Entries must be original work of the entrant and must comply with category descriptions, limitations and procedures. Adaptation of the work of another writer is not eligible. Works which have won a cash prize in any past WVV competition are **not eligible**. Published works or those accepted for publication prior to January 1, 2021, are **not eligible**. A work will be considered published if it has been printed in a publication with a distribution of 1000 or more; if it has been published on a webpage that has received or could receive 1,000 or more viewers annually; or if it has been independently published via a print-on-demand or e-book service. If less than 25 percent of the entry has been published, it will be considered unpublished. There is no eligibility age limit.

EMERGING WRITERS ELIGIBILITY: Writers who have never won a cash award in WVV Annual Competition AND who have not been published in a publication with a circulation greater than 5000 copies are eligible to enter this category. **Summer Camp Publishing will extend the offer of a royalty-based publication contract to the prose and poetry winners of WV Writers emerging writer contests. The emerging prose winner's story or essay and a suite of up to 15 poems by the winning emerging poet will be compiled into a dual author book and published by Summer Camp Publishing during the contest year.**

CONTEST GUIDELINES:

- **This contest is blindly judged. The author's name MUST NOT appear anywhere on the manuscript.**
- Indicate entry category and word count in upper right-hand corner of first page.
- All manuscripts must be titled, in standard 12-point font, and double-spaced. Poetry may be single-spaced.
- Manuscripts may be entered in multiple categories, provided the same title is used.
- Submit a separate manuscript and fee for each category you are entering.
- For paper / mailed entries only:
 - Send copies only. Manuscripts are not returned. Entries will be destroyed 30 days after the Awards Banquet.
 - Please staple, paperclip, or binder clip entries.
 - Larger submissions may be placed in a document folder.
 - Entries must be sent through the regular mail only. Signature-required mail will not be accepted. Checks or money orders should be payable to WV Writers, Inc.
 - WVV Inc. and Contest Coordinator are not responsible for US Postal Service errors.

JUDGING: Judges will not critique manuscripts. **Entrants may not contact judges during or after the contest.** Any attempt to do so will result in automatic disqualification without refund. **Decisions of the judges are final.**

WINNERS: Winners will be announced at WVV Contest Awards Banquet, June 12, 2021 at Cedar Lakes, Ripley, WV. For a list of winners, enclose stamped, self-addressed envelope.

**If not submitting online, mail to:
WEST VIRGINIA WRITERS, INC.
Carter Seaton, Contest Coordinator
1239 Kanawha Terrace
Huntington, WV 25701**

QUESTIONS?
email wwwcontest@gmail.com
or, see the Contest FAQ at
www.wvwriters.org/contest.html