

The New York Society Library

The Thirteenth Annual **YOUNG WRITERS AWARDS** Writing Competition 2015

The New York Society Library is pleased to announce its thirteenth annual Young Writers Awards. Eligible entries should be an essay or short story, fiction or nonfiction, or a poem on a topic of the author's choice. Separate awards for prose and poetry will be given for:

- Grades 3 and 4
- Grades 5 and 6
- Grades 7 and 8
- Grades 9 through 12

All submissions are subject to the rules described below. The judges will award all prizes. If you have any questions, please contact YWA@nysoclib.org or the Events Office at 212-288-6900 x222.

COMPETITION RULES

1. Each entry must be an original and unpublished work of the entrant. Please do not submit a work that is or has been entered in another award competition.
2. Limit: one entry of prose and one entry of poetry per person.
3. Please limit your entries to:
 - 750 words for grades 3 and 4
 - 1,000 words for grades 5 and 6
 - 1,500 words for grades 7 and 8
 - 1,500 words for grades 9 through 12
4. Entrants must be children or grandchildren of members of the New York Society Library, or students at a member or invited school, as of the date of the submission.
5. The entry may be decorated or illustrated, but the judging of the entries will be based on literary merit only.
6. Winners will be notified by telephone and at that time will be asked to send in their winning entries by e-mail if they have not already done so. Prior to the announcement of the winners, the Library will be unable to verify the status of any entry.
7. All entrants will be mailed a list of the winners and an invitation to the awards ceremony.
8. Entries will not be critiqued or returned.
9. Copyrights in entries are retained by the writer, but the submitted copies of the entries shall become the property of The New York Society Library. The Library shall be granted the rights, free of charge, to display, publish and otherwise use (including in print and on the Internet) the submitted work as well as the first and last name and age/grade of each winner (or have others do so). A parent or guardian will be required to execute a release and grant of rights for each winner.

HOW TO ENTER

Entries must be typed. Handwritten entries will not be considered. The name, home address, or home phone number of the young writer may **not** appear on the entry itself.

Each entry must include a separate 8½ x 11 cover sheet with the following information:

- Entrant's name
- Library membership name (school name for a school membership)
- Entrant's school grade
- Entrant's home address
- Entrant's home phone number
- The category of the entry (prose or poetry)
- The title of the entry
- The first ten words of the entry

Entry By Email

Email submission in Microsoft Word or PDF format is strongly recommended. Email the full entry, including the cover sheet as described above, as an attachment to YWA@nysoclib.org. Emailed submissions will receive a confirmation of entry.

Entry By Postal Mail or By Hand

Please mail or deliver entries to:

The Young Writers Awards
The New York Society Library
53 East 79th Street
New York, New York 10075

Mailed or hand-delivered submissions will **not** receive a confirmation of entry.

DEADLINE

The submission deadline is Monday, March 30, 2015.

JUDGES

Both prose and poetry entries will be judged by a panel of the Library's member authors.

The New York Society Library has the sole discretion to decide the final winners, including alternate or no winners, in appropriate circumstances.

PRIZES

The winner in each category will receive a framed certificate of the New York Society Library Young Writers Award and a bookstore gift certificate at the awards ceremony. All entrants will be invited to attend the ceremony and receive a certificate of participation.

Winning entries will be announced in the Library's newsletter, posted on the Library's website, and published in a booklet.

The 2015 Young Writers Awards are generously underwritten by Jeanette Sarkisian Wagner and Paul A. Wagner.