

The New York Society Library

The 23rd Annual **YOUNG WRITERS AWARDS** *Writing Competition*

Entry Deadline: April 1, 2025

The New York Society Library is pleased to announce its 23rd annual Young Writers Awards. Separate awards for prose and poetry will be given for the following grade groups:

◆ **Grades 3-4**

◆ **Grades 5-6**

◆ **Grades 7-8**

◆ **Grades 9-12**

Prose entries may be fiction or nonfiction, in the form of a short story or essay.

All submissions are subject to the rules described below.

COMPETITION RULES

1. Each entry must be an original and unpublished work of a single entrant.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. Entrants must observe the following word limits:

◆ Grades 3-4: 750 words	◆ Grades 5-6: 1000 words
◆ Grades 7-8: 1500 words	◆ Grades 9-12: 1500 words
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 entry deadline.
5. We accept decorated or illustrated entries, but the judging is based on literary merit only.
6. Entries must be submitted electronically (see further instructions under **Entry Instructions**).
7. We reserve the right to disqualify any submission that contains hate speech or features AI-assisted writing.
8. Copyrights of 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.

ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

- ♦ **Entry Deadline:** 11:59 PM on Tuesday, April 1, 2025.
- ♦ Submit your entry electronically via *bit.ly/NYSLYWA*.
- ♦ Entries will only be accepted electronically in PDF or Microsoft Word formats.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

- ♦ Entries will not be critiqued or returned.
- ♦ Prior to the announcement of the winners, the Library will be unable to verify the status of any entry.
- ♦ The winning entries will be announced in June 2025 and all participants will receive a list of winners by email.
- ♦ If you have questions, please contact *competitions@nysoclib.org*.

JUDGES

Entries are judged by a panel of 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 bookstore gift certificate.



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