

The New York Society Library

The Fifteenth Annual **YOUNG WRITERS AWARDS**

Writing Competition 2017
Submission deadline Monday, April 3, 2017

The New York Society Library is pleased to announce its fifteenth 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.

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 Each entry must be an original and unpublished work of a single entrant.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. 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. Entries must be submitted electronically or in person (see further instructions under **How to Enter**). Postal entries will **not** be accepted.
7. Prior to the announcement of the winners, the Library will be unable to verify the status of any entry.
8. All entrants will be mailed a list of the winners and an invitation to the awards ceremony.
9. Entries will not be critiqued or returned.
10. 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.

HOW TO ENTER

Entries must be typed. Handwritten entries will not be considered.

To enter electronically (recommended), visit tinyurl.com/ywa2017 and follow the onscreen directions.

Submissions may be hand-delivered to The New York Society Library at 53 East 79th Street (just east of Madison Avenue). Hand-delivered entries **must** include a cover sheet downloadable at tinyurl.com/ywa2017. Hand-delivered entries will **not** receive a confirmation of entry.

Postal entries will **not** be accepted.

If you have any questions, please contact YWA@nysoclib.org.

DEADLINE

All submissions must be received by 5:00 PM on Monday, April 3, 2017.

JUDGES

Both prose and poetry entries will be 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 certificate of the New York Society Library Young Writers Award and a bookstore gift certificate. All entrants will be invited to attend the awards 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 2017 Young Writers Awards are generously supported by Jeanette Sarkisian Wagner.