

The New York Society Library

The Eighteenth Annual **YOUNG WRITERS AWARDS** Writing Competition

Submission deadline Tuesday, March 31, 2020

The New York Society Library is pleased to announce its eighteenth annual Young Writers Awards. Separate awards will be given for prose and for poetry. Prose entries may be fiction or nonfiction, in the form of a short story or essay.

The suggested topic is BRAVERY. Entries may also be 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 Each entry must be an original and unpublished work of a single entrant.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. Entry Limit: one entry of prose and one entry of poetry per person.
3. Entrants must observe a word limit:
 - 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 (see further instructions under **How to Enter**). Entries by postal mail will **not** be accepted. Hand-delivered 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 emailed 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 submitted electronically. Visit tinyurl.com/YWANYSL for the onscreen directions.
- Entries will **only** be accepted in PDF or Microsoft Word formats.
- Entries **must** be typed. Handwritten entries will **not** be accepted.
- Entries by postal mail will **not** be accepted.
- Hand-delivered entries will **not** be accepted.
- If you have questions, please contact YWA@nysoclib.org.

DEADLINE

All entries must be submitted by 11:59 PM on Tuesday, March 31, 2020.

JUDGES

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 an award certificate and a bookstore gift certificate.

The winning entries will be publicly announced by May 6, 2020. Winning entries will be announced in the Library's newsletter, posted on the Library's website, and published in a booklet.