

The New York Society Library

The 20th Annual **YOUNG WRITERS AWARDS** *Writing Competition*

Submission deadline Friday, April 1, 2022

The New York Society Library is pleased to announce its twentieth 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 “celebration.” 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.

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 Each entry must be an original and unpublished work of a single entrant.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 a word limit:
 - ◆ **Grades 3 and 4: 750 word limit**
 - ◆ **Grades 5 and 6: 1,000 word limit**
 - ◆ **Grades 7 and 8: 1,500 word limit**
 - ◆ **Grades 9 through 12: 1,500 word limit**
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. We welcome decorated or illustrated entries, but the judging will be based on literary merit only.
6. Entries must be submitted electronically (see further instructions under **Entry Instructions**). 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.
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.

ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

- Entries **must** be submitted electronically via *tinyurl.com/YWANYSL*.
- Entries will **only** be accepted in PDF or Microsoft Word formats.
- 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 Friday, April 1, 2022.

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 27, 2022. Winning entries will be announced in the Library's newsletter and posted on the Library's website.