



West Virginia Writers, Inc. 2020 Annual Writing Contest

CASH PRIZES IN EVERY CATEGORY

FIRST PLACE - \$200 • SECOND PLACE - \$100 • THIRD PLACE - \$50

Competition Category Descriptions

- # Short Poetry (Up to 20 lines) Poetry in any form.
- # Long Poetry (21 lines up to four pages in length) Poetry in any form.
- # Short Story (up to 5,000 words) Fiction.
- # Nonfiction (Up to 5,000 words) Article, essay, or memoir.
- # Topic — LGBTQ (Up to 5,000 words) Prose, poetry, or short story.
- # Emerging Writers Prose (Up to 5,000 words) Specify fiction or nonfiction.
- # Emerging Writers Poetry (Up to four pages) The F. Ethan Fischer Memorial Poetry Award. Any poetry form.
- # Children's Books (Three chapters, or up to 5,000 words and one-page synopsis) Picture book/First Reader. Artwork may be included, but will not be judged. Send only copies of art, not originals.
- # Social Change (Up to 5,000 words) The Pearl S. Buck Award (supported by the Pearl S. Buck Birthplace Foundation). Fiction, Nonfiction, or poetry, on a topic related to social change.
- # Screenplay (Up to 30 pages in standard screenplay format. If full play is over 30 pages, send additional 1-page synopsis of whole stage play.) The Joe McCabe Memorial Script Award.

PLEASE NOTE: Entry fees for the categories below are \$12.

- # Book Length Prose (Up to 7,500 words and a 1-page synopsis)
- # Middle Grade Books/Young Adult Books (Up to 7,500 words and a 1-page synopsis). Specify Middle Grade or Young Adult, as well as fiction or nonfiction
- # Speculative Fiction (Sci-fi, Fantasy, Horror, Alternative reality) (Up to 30 pages) Any form.

We prefer and encourage electronic entry via Submittable. Visit westvirginiawriters.submittable.com

Name _____	TOTAL # OF ENTRIES: _____ X \$10 =	\$ _____	
Address _____	TOTAL # OF ENTRIES _____ X \$12 =	\$ _____	
City/State/Zip _____	LATE FEES (March 16-31, \$2 PER manuscript) =	\$ _____	
County _____	DONATION FOR NEW MOUNTAIN VOICES		
Phone _____	STUDENT WRITING CONTEST	\$ _____	
Email _____	MEMBERSHIP (Required if not a WV resident)	\$ _____	
	TOTAL ENCLOSED		
	If mailing, enclose check or money order payable to WV Writers, Inc.	\$ _____	

By signing below, I certify I have read and met all eligibility requirements.

Membership options (check all that apply)

Gold: \$50 ___ Silver: \$35 ___ Adult: \$25 ___
Student: \$10 ___ Under 18: \$5 ___

Signature _____

Date: _____

If you'd like a winners' list emailed to local media, what is the email address we should send to?

- _____ Current Year (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020)
- _____ Next Year (July 1, 2020, – June 30, 2021)
- _____ I am already a member of WVW, Inc.
- _____ Electronic newsletter instead of mailed, please

SEE OFFICIAL RULES ON NEXT PAGE



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OFFICIAL WRITING CONTEST RULES

SUBMISSIONS: We prefer electronic entry via **Submittable**. Visit westvirginiawriters.submittable.com or scan the QR code on the other side. Electronic payments are only accepted via Submittable. For mailed entries, fill out and mail this form with your check or money order to the address below. (Credit cards, cash, and electronic payments are NOT accepted for mailed entries.) Only one entry form per person is necessary. **Entry fee is \$10 per entry, or \$12 for Book Length or YA/Middle Grade. Entry fees are not refundable.**

DEADLINE: Entries are accepted from January 1 through March 15, 2020 (postmark used for mailed entries). **Late Entry Deadline:** If submitted online or mailed between March 16 and March 31, 2020, add \$2.00 fee per manuscript.

ELIGIBILITY: Contest is open to WV residents and current members of WVV, Inc. Entries must be original work of the entrant and must comply with category descriptions, limitations and procedures. Adaptation of the work of another writer is not eligible. Works which have won a cash prize in any past WVV competition are **not eligible**. Published works or those accepted for publication prior to January 1, 2020, are **not eligible**. A work will be considered published if it has been printed in a publication with a distribution of 1000 or more; if it has been published on a webpage that has received or could receive 1,000 or more viewers annually; or if it has been independently published via a print-on-demand or e-book service. If less than 25 percent of the entry has been published, it will be considered unpublished. There is no eligibility age limit.

EMERGING WRITERS ELIGIBILITY: Writers who have never won a cash award in WVV Annual Competition AND who have not been published in a publication with a circulation greater than 5000 copies are eligible to enter this category.

CONTEST GUIDELINES:

- **This contest is blindly judged. The author's name MUST NOT appear anywhere on the manuscript.**
- Indicate entry category and word count in upper right-hand corner of first page.
- All manuscripts must be titled, in standard 12-point font, and double-spaced. Poetry may be single-spaced.
- Manuscripts may be entered in multiple categories, provided the same title is used.
- Submit a separate manuscript and fee for each category you are entering.
- For paper / mailed entries only:
 - Send copies only. Manuscripts are not returned. Entries will be destroyed 30 days after the Awards Banquet.
 - Please staple, paperclip, or binder clip entries.
 - Larger submissions may be placed in a document folder.
 - Entries must be sent through the regular mail only. Signature-required mail will not be accepted. Checks or money orders should be payable to WV Writers, Inc.
 - WVV Inc. and Contest Coordinator are not responsible for US Postal Service errors.

JUDGING: Judges will not critique manuscripts. **Entrants may not contact judges during or after the contest.** Any attempt to do so will result in automatic disqualification without refund. **Decisions of the judges are final.**

WINNERS: Winners will be announced at WVV Contest Awards Banquet, June 13, 2020 at Cedar Lakes, Ripley, WV. For a list of winners, enclose stamped, self-addressed envelope.

If not submitting online, mail to:
WEST VIRGINIA WRITERS, INC.
Carter Seaton, Contest Coordinator
1239 Kanawha Terrace
Huntington, WV 25701

QUESTIONS?
email wvcontest@gmail.com
or, see the Contest FAQ at
www.wvwriters.org/contest.html