

Clarion University Council for the Social Studies

2nd Annual Writing Contest

Rules and Information

It is time again for the annual CUCSS Writing Contest. We are looking forward to reading the many submissions that your students will submit. This is a chance for your students to stretch their creative muscles. This document outlines the rules and regulations of the contest, as well as the prizes for potential winners.

Note: Please forward this document to the English teachers of your school so that the contest may be available to as many students as possible.

Information

There are three grade groups considered for the writing contest:

- Grades 4 through 6
- Grades 7 through 9
- Grades 10 through 12

There are three genre categories that students can use for their writings:

- Poetry
- Creative Fiction
- Creative Nonfiction

Students may submit up to 3 submissions (it does not matter if they choose three of the same category, or one of each category.) If one of their submissions wins in a category, their other submissions will not be eligible to win in other categories.

Rules

- Any submission that is deemed too crude or dark will not be allowed entry into the contest (ex. explicit graphic content, etc.)
- There is no minimum page limit
- Entries that exceed the maximum page limit will not be accepted.
- **Every submission should include:**
 - **Student name**
 - **Student grade**
 - **Student's school**

- **Every submission should be written in**
 - o **Times New Roman font**
 - o **12-point font**
 - o **Double spaced**
 - o **1-inch margins on all sides**

Poetry

- Poetry truly is a form of art
- Any poem type is acceptable
- Maximum Word Length – 2,000 words

Short Stories

- A short story has all the effect and emotion of a typical novel, but can conveniently be read in one sitting. We encourage students to delve deep into their imagination. Students can write a fictional short story of any genre.
- Maximum Word Length – 8,000 words

Creative Nonfiction

- “Memory or fact based writing that makes use of the styles and elements of fiction, poetry, memoir, and essay. It is writing about and from a world that includes the author’s life and/or the author’s eye on the lives of others.” - Barrie Jean Borich
- Examples of Creative Nonfiction
 - Memoir
 - Nature Writing
 - Autobiographies
 - Biographies
 - Personal Essays
- Maximum Word Length – 8,000 words

Prizes

	Grades 4-6	Grades 7-9	Grades 10-12
Poetry	- Notebook - Book of Poetry	- Notebook - Book of Poetry	- Notebook - Book of Poetry
Short Stories	- Notebook - Fiction Book	- Notebook - Fiction Book	- Notebook - Fiction Book
Nonfiction	- Notebook	- Notebook	- Notebook

Essay

- Nonfiction Book

- Nonfiction Book

- Nonfiction Book

Due Date and Submissions

Submissions will be due by Friday, April 13th.

Submissions should be sent to cucsswritingcontest@gmail.com

We are excited to see what everyone has in store for this contest! If you have any questions, please direct them to the email above.

Thank you!
Lauryn Tyler
Clarion University Council for the Social Studies