



Delta Festival of Books

Youth Short Story Contest Rules

Eligibility

- The Delta Youth Short Story Contest is open to students in the 3rd through 12th grades.
- Students may be enrolled in public school, private school, or homeschool.
- One entry per student is accepted per year.
- Only single author stories qualify.
- Students may seek input from parents, teachers, and peers.
- Entries can be fact or fiction.
- Entries must be all original work.
- Entries cannot have been previously submitted to any short story contest.
- Short stories must be submitted digitally by email to director@newportaredc.org no later than May 13, 2022.
- Each entry must contain the following information on a title page:
 - Student's name
 - Student's grade level
 - Parent's name
 - Mailing address
 - Email address for contact
 - Title of the short story
 - Date of composition
 - Does the author wish to read from the short story at the Delta Arts Festival (Yes or No)?
 - Please do not put any of this material on the same page as the poem, but only on a title page.
- Each submission must also contain the following information:
 - A digital photo of the author to use with advertising for the show.
 - A biography of between 25 and 75 words about the author to be used with advertising for the show.
- There is no fee for participation and no purchase of any kind is required.

Short Story Formatting

- Text should be typed. Children who cannot type may have their short story typed by someone else.
- The story can be written in any language. Some languages may be more challenging for us to locate a judge who can evaluate the story.
- Copyrighted names, titles, and images should be avoided.
- Short stories must consist of at least 500 words and no more than 4,000 words.
- While mature themes can be explored, no vulgar terms, offensive language, or profanity is allowed in short stories for this contest.

Prizes

- Short Stories will be separated into three age related categories:
 - Grades 3 through 6
 - Grades 7 through 9
 - Grades 10 through 12
- A 1st place, 2nd place, and 3rd place ribbon will be awarded to each age category.
- One overall “Best of Show” ribbon will be awarded regardless of age category.
- Winners will be announced on Saturday, June 4, 2022 at the Delta Festival of Books.

Agreements by Participation

- Students agree upon submission that the short story is their original work. Plagiarism is considered a disqualifying offense.
- While the students retain all copyrights on the material, by submitting a short story to the contest, they convey the right to the Delta Festival of Books and the Blue Bridge Center for the Delta Arts to publish the short story in print or digitally in an anthology of stories from the contest.
- Short stories will be judged by a committee chosen solely at the discretion of the Delta Festival of Books, and applicants agree that their decision is final.
- A 45-minute block of time will be provided to schedule authors for a public reading from their short story at the Delta Arts Festival. If the author wishes to read, then they will be added to the schedule by the Delta Festival of Books. Their desire to read must be clearly indicated on the title page of their submission or they will not be added to the schedule. They may be asked to read a selection from the story rather than the entire story.
- Submission of the short story and related materials is considered an agreement that allows the Delta Festival of Books and the Blue Bridge Center for the Delta Arts to use the author’s image and biography in advertising purposes related to the Delta Festival of Books and the Delta Arts Festival.
- For more information call (870) 523-1009 or email director@newportaredc.org.