

# Creative Writing - Division 15

Superintendents: Carol Ballent • Michael Bell

Assistant Superintendents: John Chenet • Jose Maldonado • Pam Maldonado • Andrew Woodbury • Laura Yusko

Check In:	January 14, 2020, 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM in Arnold Hall.
Check Out:	April 9, 2020, 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM in Arnold Hall.
Group Entries:	Not Accepted
Award Ceremony:	April 1, 2020 at 7:00 PM in The Playhouse

## Rules:

- Grade Levels:** 4 – 12 grades; individual entries only; NO GROUP ENTRIES. Carefully review the Class descriptions below for further grade level stipulations.
- Students in Grades 7-12 who submit entries to the **Scholastic Writing Awards** competition may **submit one entry** — for adjudication, display at The Fair, and the commensurate award(s) — by emailing their entry to [carol@ballent.net](mailto:carol@ballent.net). The entry should include the following information at the top of the first page: Student First and Last Name; Student Grade; School; Teacher's Name. In the body of the email, please include the genre of the entry (Poetry • Flash Fiction • Short Story • Creative Non-Fiction) and phone number of the student, parent, or teacher.
- Number of Entries:** Each exhibitor is limited to one entry.
- Size Specifications:** Poetry (plus any art work) must be mounted to the following size specifications: 6" x 9" or 9" x 12" construction paper, depending on the length of the poetry. Do not fold entries. Maximum length of Poetry is one page. Maximum length of Short Stories is 6 pages, double-spaced. Maximum length of Creative Fiction is 2 pages.
- Entry Form(s) and Check-In Procedures:** Teachers: To submit entries from your class, you must enclose the original copy of your Fair Entry with **students' names listed in alphabetical order**. Place all entries and entry forms in a large manila envelope and clearly mark the name of the school, teacher, grade, number of entries & type(s) of entries enclosed (free verse, short story, etc.) on the outside of the envelope. These must be hand delivered to The Youth Fair on the Check In date. **The student's name, school and grade must be on the front of each entry.** Blank printer labels must be secured to the BACK of each entry. If necessary, labels and Fair Entry forms will be available at Check In.
- Check Out Procedures: On the Check Out date, students may not pick up entries that were submitted by teachers.** Teachers may pick up entries submitted by other teachers. It is not the responsibility of The Youth Fair or the division superintendent to return these entries to you.
- Acceptable Entries:** Entries must be legible, typed (one side only), and be mounted on construction paper. (See Size Specifications in Rule 3 and review the Class descriptions below) Teachers and Students: **Please proofread entries before submitting them. Correct punctuation of dialogue in short stories is necessary.**

8. **NOT ACCEPTABLE:** Entries that are handwritten or mounted on tag board will be disqualified. Do not fold entries. The following forms of poetry MAY NOT BE SUBMITTED: Haiku, Acrostics, Limericks, Diamante, Modeled Poems and Cinquain. **Excessive or distracting errors in spelling, punctuation, and/or grammar will result in disqualification or lower awards.**
9. Due to limited space, only entries awarded a blue, red, or white ribbon may be displayed. Only the top page of a short story or creative non-fiction will be displayed.
10. Exhibits may be reproduced & used by The Youth Fair. Original work will be returned on the Check Out date.
11. ANY ENTRY NOT CONFORMING TO THE ABOVE RULES OR THE OFFICIAL FAIR RULES WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.
12. This Division will accept only those entries made expressly for the 2020 fair. All decisions of the judges are final. The Youth Fair management has jurisdiction over interpretation of these rules. This Division is not responsible for lost/damaged items.

**Class Number, Title and Description:**

**Class 1501 - Poetry - Free Verse: (Grades 4–12) Does not have fixed meter or rhyming pattern. HAIKU, ACROSTICS, DIAMANTE, MODELED POEMS, OR CINQUAIN WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. (One-page limit.)**

**Class 1502 - Poetry - Rhymed Verse: (Grades 4–12) Fixed metrical pattern; sonnets. (One page limit.)**

**Class 1503 - Flash Fiction: (Grades 6-12) Highly focused stories, characterized by brevity. The writer must tell a complete story in which every word is essential. (One-page limit.)**

**Class 1504 - Short Story: (Grades 6–12) Should contain an original plot and characters with any dialogue punctuated correctly. Entries are to be typed and may not exceed six pages, double-spaced, one side only of standard typing paper, stapled to one sheet of 9" x 12" construction paper. Due to space limitations, only the top page of the story will be displayed.**

**Class 1505 - Creative Non-Fiction: (Grades 6–12) A non-fiction written work which is based on experience and/or emotion; it should reflect a real-life experience in an original fact-based composition that remains compelling through the utilization of literary techniques. (Reports will be disqualified.) This includes, but is not limited to, memoirs and characterizations. Entries must be typed and may not exceed two pages, mounted on one piece of 9" x 12" construction paper. (Two-page limit.)**

**Judging Criteria:**

**Short Story/Creative Non-Fiction/Prose: Imaginative or innovative approach; unique development of character, setting, and plot. Poetry: Effective use of language; originality in approach; mood intensity; meaningful content. Poetry MUST have spiritual, emotional, or imaginative theme.**

**Awards:**

Larry Thompson Award - Grades 8-12..... \$50.00 Gift Certificate\*  
 Barbara Dubé Creative Writing Award - Grades 4-7 ..... \$50.00 Gift Certificate\*

First Place ..... Fair Pen and Pencil Set  
 Second Place ..... Fair Pen  
 Third Place ..... Ribbon  
 Fourth Place ..... Ribbon  
 Judges' Award ..... Special Award Rosette & Certificate

If there are no entries meeting the quality standards for any special awards, no award will be given.

\*Gift Certificates donated by *Miami Writes*

