

Creative Writing Contests for 2018-2019

Read down the chart to see which contests you may enter!

Contestant	Contest Choices	Contest Rules
Students enrolled in grades 6, 7, or 8 in Texas or Oklahoma	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Gifted Pen Middle School Poetry Contest 2. Andy & Emily Klement Short Story Contest 3. Separating the Ordinary from the Extraordinary Essay 	<p>Only one entry may be submitted in each division. Poetry must not exceed 25 lines. Short story must not exceed 1,000 words. Essay must not exceed 1,000 words and <i>Using the Medal of Honor Character Development Program's six character traits (Courage, Commitment, Citizenship, Sacrifice, Integrity, Patriotism) as a framework, choose someone you believe espouses at least two of these values. This person should be an ordinary person who you believe exhibits extraordinary values, enough so that they have become a role model for you.</i></p>
Students in grades 9, 10, 11, or 12 in Texas or Oklahoma	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Brad Dill Memorial Short Story Contest 2. The Keith King Memorial Poetry Contest 3. Separating the Ordinary from the Extraordinary Essay 	<p>Only one entry may be submitted in each division. Poetry must not exceed 25 lines. Short story must not exceed 1,500 words. Essay must not exceed 1,500 words and <i>Using the Medal of Honor Character Development Program's six character traits (Courage, Commitment, Citizenship, Sacrifice, Integrity, Patriotism) as a framework, choose someone you believe espouses at least two of these values. This person should be an ordinary person who you believe exhibits extraordinary values, enough so that they have become a role model for you.</i></p>
Full-time or part-time students at NCTC during either the fall or spring semester of the current academic year	The Aspiring Poet Contest for NCTC Students	Only one entry may be submitted and may not exceed 50 lines.
Full-time or part-time students at NCTC during either the fall or spring semester of the current academic year	The Gerald McDaniel Memorial Short Story Contest for NCTC Students	Only one entry may be submitted and may not exceed 3,500 words.
Full-time or part-time students at NCTC during either the fall or spring semester of the current academic year	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Creative Nonfiction Contest for NCTC Students 2. The Academic Expository Contest 	The Creative Nonfiction essay should be informal with no documentation, and be 500 to 1,500 words. The Academic Expository essay should be formal with documentation, and be 1,000 to 2,000 words.
Residents of Texas or Oklahoma who is neither a student nor a professional writer?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Garland Ray Wallace Poetry Contest 2. The Vivian Thomlinson Short Story Contest for Non-NCTC Students or Non-Professional Writers 	<p>Only one entry may be submitted in each division. Poetry must not exceed 50 lines. Short story must not exceed 3,500 words.</p>

CONTEST GUIDELINES

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL ENTRIES

- Originality and good taste in language and subject matter are required; avoid rough language and adult situations. Fiction entries should be well-constructed stories, not merely personal reminiscences. Resubmitted work is not allowed.
- E-mailed entries must be in Microsoft Word (.doc) or Rich Text Format (.rtf).
- Paper entries must be in Times New Roman or Arial, size 12 font, double-spaced. Allow one-inch margins on all sides. Type on one side of the page only.
- Be sure to include the required entry form with your submission. Multiple-paged entries must have page numbers in the upper-right-hand corner of each page. Attach pages with paper clips, not staples. No title page is necessary. **Your name should not appear on the pages of your entry, only on the entry form itself.**
- Winners will be asked to submit their work electronically in April. If not received, they will not be published in the *April Perennial*.
- More information about the Medal of Honor Character Development Program to aid in writing the middle school and high school “Separating the Ordinary from the Extraordinary Essay Contest” can be obtained by contacting Gabrielle Fletcher directly at gletcher@nctc.edu
- **Schools:** Middle School and High School entries will be limited to the top 15 from each teacher in each category: MS short story, MS poetry, MS essay, HS short story, HS poetry, & HS essay. Teachers exceeding the maximum amount allowed (15) will result in disqualification.

Entries which do not comply with **all** requirements and guidelines may be eliminated from the contest. All paper entries become the property of North Central Texas College and will not be returned.

Winners will be notified in early April, 2019.

DEADLINE

All entries must be received no later than **noon on Wednesday, February 20, 2019.**

Address entries to the contest director:

Ms. Gabrielle Fletcher
Department of English, Speech, and Foreign Language
North Central Texas College
1525 West California Street
Gainesville, Texas 76240-4699

Send electronic entries to gletcher@nctc.edu. Contest guidelines and entry forms can be downloaded from the NCTC web site at creativewriting.nctc.edu

Questions? Call the ESFL office at (940) 668-7731 ext 4355

AWARDS

AWARDS FOR ALL REGULAR CONTESTS

First Prize	\$75.00
Second Prize	\$50.00
Third Prize	\$30.00

In addition, several other special awards will be presented. The Ona Roberts Wright Award for Literary Excellence in Prose (essay or fiction) and the Layuna Hicks Award for Literary Excellence in Poetry, each with a \$100 prize, will be given to the NCTC students whose entries are deemed to have outstanding literary merit.

Awards will be presented in a special ceremony on **Friday, April 12, 2019**, at 11:00 AM in the First State Bank Center for Performing Arts at North Central Texas College in Gainesville. The public is invited to attend.

Prize-winning entries may be published as space permits in the 40th, Spring 2020 issue of the college literary magazine, *The April Perennial*. Copies of *The April Perennial* containing winning entries from the previous year's contests will be distributed on Awards Day.

ENTRY FORM

North Central Texas College Creative Writing Contests

Name (please print)	Circle: Mr. Ms. Miss Mrs.			
Mailing Address				
City, State, Zip Code				
Telephone				
E-mail Address				
Title of your entry				
Check one:	Fiction	Poetry	Essay	
Required for Students in Middle School and High School:				
What school do you attend, in what town/city?				
What grade are you in?				
Who is your English teacher? Please give your teacher or school's email and phone number:				
What are your parents' names?				
Required for College students and Adult non-student entrants:				
Are you an NCTC student?				
If so, which campus do you attend?				
Who is your English instructor?				
Are you a resident of Oklahoma or Texas?				
Are you a professional writer?				

Note: Winners will be required to submit their social security numbers before awards checks can be issued.