



WJCT PBS KIDS Writers Contest Rules



MANY WILL ENTER, FEW WILL WIN. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. The WJCT PBS KIDS Writers Contest is based on the Reading Rainbow® Young Writers and Illustrators Contest, a concept developed by WNED. The Contest begins on or about January 1, 2018 and ends with the announcement of winners on or about June 10, 2018. This Contest consists of two (2) rounds of judging: (1) the grade level judging, and (2) the People's Choice. To enter, you must first be judged at the grade level for a chance to move on to the People's Choice judging. To enter the Contest for judging, you may submit your entry to WJCT c/o Writers Contest 100 Festival Park Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32202. All entries must be postmarked by March 19, 2018 and received by March 21, 2018 to be eligible. These Contest rules are subject to modification by PBS and/or WJCT at their discretion. This Contest is void where prohibited. Sponsored and Managed by WJCT Public Broadcasting located at 100 Festival Park Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32202.

Eligibility & Entry Guidelines * If story does not meet the following requirements it will not be judged.*

- Entrants must be children in kindergarten, first, second, or third grade.
- Children of employees of PBS, PBS stations, or their affiliates, sales representatives, subsidiaries, or parent companies, advertising/sales promotion agencies, and judges are not eligible.
- To be eligible, an entrant must be a legal resident of the fifty (50) United States and D.C. (excluding Puerto Rico, USVI, and American Samoa). Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify ineligible entries; such entries will not be returned.
- Only one entry per person will be accepted in this Contest; all subsequent entries will be disqualified.
- Only single author stories qualify (no co-authored stories).
- Stories can be fact or fiction, and prose or poetry.
- Any failure to adhere to these Contest Rules may result in disqualification from the Contest.
- No purchase is necessary.

Word Count Requirement * If story does not meet the following requirements it will not be judged.*

- Kindergarten and first grade stories must have a minimum of 50 words and a maximum of 200 words.
- Second and third grade stories must have a minimum of 100 words and a maximum of 350 words.
- The word count includes "a," "an," and "the," but not the words on non-story pages such as the title page or those that enhance the illustrations.
- Text must be printed, written legibly, or typed.
- Children who cannot write may dictate their story to be printed, written legibly, or typed.
- Text may be integrated into the illustration pages or on separate pages.
- Non-English text must be translated on the same page and the translated text (English text) must adhere to word count.
- Invented spelling is accepted.

Format & Illustrations * If story does not meet the following requirements it will not be judged.*

- Stories must have at least 5 original, clear, and colorful illustrations.
- Original art can include drawings, collages, and 3-D created by the author or photographs taken by the author.
- Stories must be created on one side of the paper AND numbered on the back of each page.

Official Entry Form * If story does not meet the following requirements it will not be judged.*

- Each entry must include the official WJCT PBS KIDS Writers Contest Entry Form, with the required signature of a parent/guardian (and, if appropriate, the optional signature of the sponsoring teacher), consenting to allowing their child/ward to enter the Contest, confirming that the story and art are original, and granting certain rights to the entry materials.
- The entry form must be complete and legible to be eligible.

Judging, Awards & Notification

All entries submitted will be judged using the judging criteria below by a panel of local judges. The entry with the highest average score in each grade will be deemed the grand prize winner for that grade. The stories with the top four average scores from the grade level judging round will be automatically entered into the People's Choice judging round of the Contest. Judging for each grade level round of the Contest will occur on or about April 1st. Judging for the People's Choice judging round of the Contest will occur on or about May 3rd. The judging criteria used by any judge in connection with the grade level round of the Contest shall be scored using a rubric based on the following criteria as follows:

- Originality
- Creative Expression
- Storytelling
- Integration of Story & Illustrations
- Overall Impression

All decisions of the judges are final and binding and not subject to appeal or review. For the grade level judging round of the Contest, winners will be as follows: (1) entries with the highest average score from among all eligible entries received per grade will be deemed the First Place winners; (2) the entries the second to the highest average score from among all eligible entries received per grade will be deemed the Second Place winners (3) the entries with the third to the highest average score from among all eligible entries received per grade will be deemed the Third Place winners. In the event of a tie, the entry with the highest score in the creativity and originality category from among all tying entries will be deemed the winner from among all tying entries. Winners will be notified on or before June 10, 2018. WJCT will invite the Community to judge all eligible entries for the People's Choice judging round of the Contest online.

The top four (4) stories from each grade level with the highest average scores will be eligible for the People's Choice judging round. People's Choice winners will be determined by entries with the highest number of votes (popular vote) from among all eligible entries received per grade. In the event of a tie, the entry with the highest average score from the grade level judging round will be deemed the winner from among all tying entries. Winners will be notified on or before June 10, 2018.

Return of Entries

The Contest administrators at WJCT will make every effort, but are not required, to return mailed entries only if accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope of an appropriate size. WJCT and its affiliates are not responsible for late, lost, stolen, misdirected, damaged, mutilated, incomplete, returned, or illegible entries, or postage-due mail.

Rights Associated with Contest

Submission of the Entry Form constitutes permission from the participant's parent/legal guardian for WJCT to use the participants' name, likeness, biographical information, information, and materials contained in the Entry Form, photographs, and any statements or remarks made about the Contest in advertising and promotion without further compensation or permission, except where prohibited by law. All entries, and any copyrights therein, become the sole property of WJCT. By entering, entrants' parent/legal guardian agree to abide by the above stated rules, and warrant that their child's/ward's entry is their original work and does not infringe upon or violate rights of any third party, and grant to WJCT the right to edit, publish, promote, and otherwise use their entry materials without permission, notice or compensation. No royalties will be paid at this or any time. By submitting an entry and Entry Form, each participant's parent/legal guardian, on behalf of the participant, agrees to assign all right, title, and interest in and to the entry and Entry Form to WJCT and warrants that the participant's parent/legal guardian has the authority to assign such right, title, and interest. In the event that any applicable law requires certain formalities to be fulfilled to effectuate such grant of rights, each participant (and parent or guardian) agrees to cooperate with WJCT to achieve fulfillment of such formalities. By submitting an Entry Form, each participant's parent/legal guardian, on behalf of participant, agrees to be bound by these Contest Rules. Each participant's parent/legal guardian, on behalf of the participant, agrees to release and hold WJCT, and its employees, officers, directors, shareholders, agents, representatives, subsidiaries, parent companies, or other affiliated companies harmless from any and all damages, losses, claims, and liabilities arising out of participation in the Contest or resulting from acceptance or claiming of any prize hereunder. WJCT reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to terminate, suspend, or otherwise cancel the Contest at any time. Income and all other taxes are the responsibility of the prize recipient. WJCT is not responsible for any expenses incurred in connection with participation in the Contest.

Privacy: Unless otherwise specified, any and all information connected in connection with this Contest will be used by Sponsor solely for the purpose of administering the Contest. Please note: If you circled "Yes" on the Entry Form to opt-in to receive the Optional promotional materials from WJCT, Sponsor will share your contact information contained in the Entry Form with WJCT, or their agents, to fulfill the offers. To understand how WJCT uses, stores, manages, and discards private information, visit the WJCT privacy policy at: <http://www.wjct.org/donor-privacy-policy>.

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