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2025 Creative Writing Contest Guidelines

HOME

Contest Categories:

- The 5th annual MACOA Creative Writing Contest will accept entries in **Essay** (limit of 3000 words or fewer), **Poetry, and Short Story** (limit of 3000 words or fewer).
- One winner will be chosen from each of the above genres in two age brackets: **9th-12th Grade and Adult**

Contest Information:

- The 2025 Creative Writing Contest will accept entries February 3rd - April 1, 2025.
- Entries must be submitted as a PDF document to Mineral Area Council on the Arts via email at **MACOACreativeWriting@MineralArea.edu** or mail at MACOA, PO Box 1000, Park Hills, MO 63601 by 4:00 p.m. April 1st, 2025.
- Contest is open to the MACOA service region which includes *Iron, Madison, Perry, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, and Washington* counties in the state of Missouri.

Guidelines:

- An author may submit more than one entry but *only* one entry per genre.
- The theme of the 2025 Creative Writing Contest is **HOME**. Each entry must relate to this theme.
- Entries will be judged on quality of *writing, content, focus, originality, form, structure, organization, style, language, and use of conventions*.
- Prior to submitting a work for judging, authors, please assess the content to decide whether it is appropriate in a family-oriented public reading.
- Entries must be **typed, double spaced, using Times New Roman, and 12 pt font** for effortless readability.
- Entries must be submitted *with the entry form* (see page two). Do **NOT** include the name of the author or age bracket on the entry. This information should appear only on the entry form.
- Hand-written entries will not be accepted.
- Entries must be unpublished or strictly self-published works.

Creative Writing Workshop:

- Please join us as the contest will culminate in a Creative Writing Workshop at the Farmington Public Library on April 15th at 5pm. The workshop will be followed by the public reading of the six winning entries. Awards Information:
- Winners will receive a cash prize and a public reading of the winning entry.
- The six winning entries will be published on www.MineralAreaArts.org.
- One overall winner will receive the honor of having his/her work published in the "Daily Journal".
- Winners will be announced April 15th at the awards and April 16th online.