

# THE 32ND ANNUAL ADULT CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST IS HELD TO ENCOURAGE AND RECOGNIZE CREATIVE WRITING AMONG ADULTS.

## ELIGIBILITY

The contest is open to any person 18 years old or older who:

- resides, works or attends school in Tulsa County, or
- has a nonresident Tulsa City-County Library card, and
- is not a member of the creative writing contest committee, a judge of the contest or a first-place winner from the previous year. (Winners may not re-enter the same category the following year.)

Only unpublished manuscripts or manuscripts published without remuneration are accepted. Unpublished and published writers are encouraged to compete.

Forms are available on Tulsa City-County Library's Web site: [www.tulsalibrary.org/friends](http://www.tulsalibrary.org/friends)

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 1 Regardless of classification, no previously published work for which remuneration was received is considered for any award.
- 2 Double-space and type manuscripts on 8.5 x 11 (standard) paper. Poetry may be submitted in free form. Title and number each page in the top right corner. **Do not put your name on any page as manuscripts are judged anonymously.**
- 3 Attach a cover page that includes the title, classification and category of your piece, and your name and mailing address.
- 4 Keep a copy of your manuscript in the event your manuscript is misplaced in mailing or handling. Photocopied entries are accepted. **Do not send your only copy!**
- 5 Submit a separate entry form and a \$5 entry fee for each manuscript entered. Entry forms may be reproduced.
- 6 Deliver the stapled manuscript with a **separate** title page and entry form to the Central Library or any branch library, or mail flat to: **Adult Creative Writing Contest, Friends of TCCL, 400 Civic Center, Tulsa, Okla., 74103-3830.**
- 7 You may enter all four categories, but may submit only one manuscript in each category. Please mail **all** entries together in the same packet.
- 8 Manuscripts will not be returned.
- 9 The deadline for receiving manuscripts is a postmark of Jan. 31, 2009.

## CLASSIFICATIONS

On the entry form for each manuscript, clearly indicate one of the following classifications, depending on the publishing status within that category:

- 1 **PUBLISHED** - If you have received remuneration for works published within a category, then you qualify as having been published. Remuneration includes payment in cash or publications in lieu of cash. For example, if you've published in a journal and received copies of the journal as compensation, you are considered published in that category.
- 2 **UNPUBLISHED** - If you have not published with remuneration within the category, you qualify as unpublished. If you've published in a school newspaper or church bulletin, for example, you are considered unpublished.

## CATEGORIES

- 1 **SHORT STORY** - A narrative, fictional, prose story having a central theme. A maximum of 5,000 words will be accepted.
- 2 **CHILDREN'S FICTION** - Works in which illustrations are integral may be submitted, but judging is based primarily on the text. A maximum of 3,000 words will be accepted. **Due to a low past response there will not be a Children's Fiction Published category.**
- 3 **INFORMAL ESSAY** - A short composition considering a single topic and usually personal in approach. No research, technical reports or religious treatises will be considered. A maximum of 5,000 words will be accepted.
- 4 **POETRY** - The total number of words may include more than one poem. If more than one poem is submitted within the word limit, all poems are considered, but only one poem can receive an award. Only one cover sheet is required for all of the poems in one entry. A maximum of 400 words will be accepted.

## JUDGING

All entries are judged based on content, originality and quality of expression. The decisions of the judges are final. Winners and honorable-mention recipients in each category are notified before the awards ceremony.

## AWARDS

**All entrants**, not just the winners, will receive invitations to the awards ceremony. A cash prize of \$100 plus a book and a certificate are awarded to the best work by a published and unpublished writer within each category. Second-place winners will receive a cash prize of \$50 plus a book and a certificate. Certificates are awarded to those receiving honorable mention. Any category having fewer than five entries will not be judged and entry fees will be returned. **Manuscripts are not published** but can be found in a notebook at the information desk on the second floor of Central Library following the awards ceremony. The manuscript book is not available for checkout or reproduction.

## AWARDS CEREMONY AND RECEPTION

An awards ceremony and reception is scheduled at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, April 5, 2009, at the Central Library, Fourth Street and Denver Avenue. Winners from each category will have the opportunity to read a short selection from his or her winning entry.



Tulsa City-County Library  
[www.tulsalibrary.org](http://www.tulsalibrary.org)

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