

WV Young Writers Contest Guidelines

Teachers and administrators in each county will emphasize writing and encourage students to submit writing for judging at the school and county levels. **Writings submitted for judging may be on any topic (narrative) and must be composed during school hours and supervised by teachers.**

Classroom teachers will judge entries holistically, and counties will receive announcements of results by the middle of April. *Entries will be judged according to the WV Writing Assessment rubrics.*

- Grades 1-3 judged according to Grade 3 Writing Rubric
<http://writing.k12.wv.us/pdf/Rubric2008.pdf>
- Grades 4-11 judged according to Grades 4-11 Writing Rubrics
<http://writing.k12.wv.us/pdf/Rubric2008.pdf>
- Grade 12 judged according to Grade 11 Writing Rubric
<http://writing.k12.wv.us/pdf/Rubric2008.pdf>

Essays submitted in the state competition **must not** exceed word length below:

- Grade levels 1-2 300 words
- Grade 3-4 500 words
- Grade levels 5-6; 7-8 700 words
- Grade levels 9-10; 11-12 1,000 words

Entries must be word-processed and double-spaced on 8 ½" by 11" paper. Each entry must be titled. The student's name and other identifying information may **not** appear on the essay. A cover sheet and **Permission Release and Website Form** must be submitted with each entry.

Teachers must submit student entries to their County Coordinator **in the following order:** 1) cover sheet, 2) **Permission Release and Website Form**, 3) essay. Each entry must be stapled.

Entries that fail to follow the guidelines or have not been judged at the county level and submitted by the Young Writers County Coordinator will be eliminated. Faxed and e-mailed entries will not be accepted.

Students in private schools within the county district may participate. Entries submitted from private schools must follow the guidelines outlined above. Young Writers coordinators are encouraged to share this information with personnel at private schools.

Mail *judged county entries* to: Barbara Holmes, Ed. D., Director
West Virginia Young Writers Contest
Marshall University Graduate College
100 Angus Peyton Drive
South Charleston, West Virginia 25303-1600

The deadline for submitting county entries to WV Young Writers Contest both online and by mail is Friday, **March 19, 2010.**

Forms and rules for Young Writers are available on the Central West Virginia Writing Project website at <http://www.marshall.edu/mugc/cwvwp> or the WV Department of Education site at http://wvde.state.wv.us/instruction/young_writers.html.

E-mail holmes26@marshall.edu or treale@access.wv.us for additional information.