



Summer Youth Writing Challenge Contest Guide

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All entries must be submitted by August 19, 2024 at 11:59pm. Late entries will not be accepted.

How to submit your contest entries:

- Contest submissions and completed Entry Registration forms **can be dropped off in person at The Salvation Army Strathroy – 71 Maitland Terr., Strathroy, ON.**
- Contest submissions and completed Entry Registration forms can also be submitted virtually through email to **tianna.evans@salvationarmy.ca**
- This contest is **FREE to enter**, so no payment is required for entry.

Entry Guidelines

- Students submitting original works must enter into the division category that is applicable to them as of June 2024.
 - *i.e A Student who has just completed 6th grade in June 2024, can enter the Junior Category (Grades 4-6).*
- One submission per category per student.
 - *i.e A student may enter all of the categories - 1 original poem, 1 original essay, and 1 short story - but may not enter the same category more than once.*
- All works must be original to the student authoring them. Plagiarism, or reproductions of a written work without permission from the original author will result in disqualification. Submissions that appear to be computer generated, rendered by AI or machine will not be accepted.
- Students must utilize the provided topics and themes to create their written works.
- All participants wishing to enter the contest, must provide a completed Entry Registration form with their contest submission(s).
- Participants 17 years of age or younger must confirm parental/guardian permission via their Entry Registration form.
- Both typed, hand-written, and virtual submissions will be accepted.
- Entries must not exceed the word, line, or page count outlined for each age division in each category.

Judging Criteria

Content and Clarity	
Scored out of 30	<p>Does the work adhere to and follow the theme or topic of the specific category?</p> <p>Does the work convey a clear message or emotion that is relevant to the theme or topic provided?</p> <p>Does the writing flow well? Do the ideas come together thoughtfully?</p>
Creativity and Originality	
Scored out of 40	<p>Does the work grab the attention of the reader?</p> <p>Is it thoughtful, moving, inspiring and/or impactful?</p> <p>Does the content feel fresh?</p> <p>Does it reflect an interesting point of view or experience? Does the author successfully express their ideas and perspectives?</p> <p>Does the work appear to be originally produced and created by the student author who is submitting the work?</p>
Production and Quality	
Scored out of 30	<p>Does the work read clearly, thoughtfully, and is appropriately paced?</p> <p>Is it free of spelling, grammar, and formatting errors or typos?</p> <p>Does it adhere to the word, line, or page limit for the entered category?</p>