



Public
Library



*****CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS*****

Children's Writing Showcase: **KidsWrite! San Diego**

Theme: *My San Diego Story*

Submission due date: March 13, 2019

San Diego County is the unique backdrop for *your* story! From Pacific Ocean waves to Anza-Borrego sands, from the International Border in the south to Camp Pendleton up north: what does this special corner of the country mean to you? How has your San Diego experience shaped who you are? Or could it be that you have helped shape your city—your community—by just being you?

Young writers (ages 6 to 18) are invited to share their unique perspectives, in fiction or nonfiction, in the categories of Poetry, Reflective Essay, or Short Story. Entrants may write in their primary language but must include or attach an English translation. Entries must not exceed 1,500 words. There is no cost to submit.

The top entries in each category and age division will be published on the San Diego Writers Festival (SDWF) website. All participants are invited to attend and be recognized at the SDWF on April 13, 2019. Winning entrants may read their works aloud. Winning entries will be displayed, and all entries will be made available to read, at the SDWF. Additionally, winning entries will receive a cash prize (amount TBD based on the number of qualifying entries in each division).

OFFICIAL RULES:

By submitting an entry to the **KidsWrite! San Diego Children's Writing Showcase**, entrants accept and agree to be bound by the official rules for participation as well as the entry requirements for their specific literature category and division. Any violation of these rules may, at SDWF's discretion, result in disqualification. All decisions of the reviewers regarding this program are final and binding in all respects.

ELIGIBILITY: All writers ages 6 to 18 are welcome to submit. Participants must be residents of San Diego County.

LITERATURE CATEGORIES: The three literature categories are Poetry, Reflective Essay, and Short Story. Writers may submit works in one or more categories—for example, one poem and one short story—but may submit only one work per category.

AGE DIVISIONS: Writers may enter in the appropriate division for their age: Primary (ages 6-9); Intermediate (ages 10-13); High School (ages 14-18); or the Special Writer Division, which welcomes all ages.

The **Special Writer Division** welcomes writers of all ages and abilities and allows for any needed accommodations (e.g., adaptive technology or transcribing) for writers to participate. Assistants should refrain from interference in the creative process to the extent possible; only participating as necessary to allow the Special Writer's talent to shine through.

HOW TO ENTER: All entries must be submitted via our online submission portal at www.sandiegowritersfestival.com. Go to "Events"; scroll down to the Denny Sanford Children's Library section; follow button from there. Please see entry requirements and how-tos below. The deadline for submissions is March 13, 2019. Submissions will be closed after 300 entries are received, so please submit early.

1. ENTRY RULES/REQUIREMENTS/HOW-TOS.

- Only new pieces of literature inspired by the current year's theme may be submitted.
- Use of copyrighted material is prohibited. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified.
- Each entry must be the original work of one writer only. An adult may not alter the creative integrity of a young writer's work. This showcase has been designed to encourage and recognize individual creativity. Help from an adult or collaboration with other students is not allowed except in the Special Writers Division.
- All entries must be submitted via our online submission portal at www.sandiegowritersfestival.com.
- All entrants must include, via our online submission portal, the following:
 - **Name**
 - **Age**
 - **Phone number**
 - **Email**
 - A short **Author's Bio**. The Author's Bio gives the reader a little insight into who you are, where you are from, and perhaps what inspired your work. The bio should not exceed 60 words.
 - **Title** of the entry
 - The **entry, as an attachment (Word document or PDF)**. Please do not include your name in the attached document or PDF.
 - **Parent permission** for submissions to be reprinted or shared by SDWF.

2. JUDGING AND NOTIFICATION. Submissions will be judged anonymously by an expert panel of authors, writers, and poets. Entries will be judged primarily on how well the student uses their artistic vision to portray the theme including their originality and creativity. SDWF makes no restrictions on content or subject matter in writer submissions; however, entries judged to contain "adult" language or themes may not be able to be shared at the Children's portion of the Festival. Under no condition may parents or students contact a reviewer to dispute the status or score of any entry. The panel of judges in its sole discretion will select finalists for exhibition, publication, and recognition.

3. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS. The best-reviewed submission in each category and age division will be judged a "Winner." Winning submissions will be recognized in a ceremony at the SDWF, will be published on the SDWF website, and possibly in other media outlets as well. There will also be at least one "Runner-up" prize in each category and age division. All entrants are invited to

read their works aloud at the SDWF and will be thanked and recognized for their contributions at the Festival. Cash prizes, of an amount still TBD, will be awarded to winning entrants.

4. OWNERSHIP AND LICENSE. Ownership in any submission shall remain the property of the entrant, but entry into this program constitutes entrant's irrevocable permission and consent that SDWF may display, copy, reproduce, enhance, print, sublicense, publish, distribute, and create derivative works for SDWF purposes. SDWF is not responsible for lost entries. Submission of entry into the SDWF program constitutes acceptance of all rules and conditions.

5. PARTICIPATING ENTITIES. This program is administered by the San Diego Writers Festival, in association with the San Diego Memoir Writers Association and in partnership with the SD Public Library. Judging of entries will be performed by professional authors, writers, and poets.

6. QUESTIONS? Email childrensprogramming@sandiegowritersfestival.com. Please do not email about entry status. All entrants will be notified after judging in March and April.