

# YOUNG WRITERS CONTEST

	<b>Originality</b> 1-4 points	<b>Creative Expression</b> 1-4 points	<b>Storytelling</b> 1-4 points	<b>Language Use</b> 1-4 points
<b>Distinguished</b> (4 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Writing is based on an original idea or uncommon theme.</li> <li>- Writing includes certain elements of originality. For example, in a unique voice or with an unexpected outcome.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Writing is expressive, including figurative language and detailed descriptions that engage the reader.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The writing is well organized and unified from start to finish, with effective transitions.</li> <li>- The writing style and content generally meet the needs of the audience.</li> <li>- The tone is appropriate and enhances the writing.</li> <li>- Sentences are carefully crafted to create fluidity, interest and variety.</li> <li>- The writing includes exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The writing demonstrates an understanding of grammatical conventions.</li> <li>- Sentence structure is varied when appropriate.</li> <li>- Careful word choice enhances the writing.</li> </ul>
<b>Proficient</b> (3 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Writing is based on an original idea OR includes certain elements of originality.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Writing is expressive, including some figurative language and/or detailed description.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The piece is generally organized and unified.</li> <li>- Effective transitions are used, but there are lapses.</li> <li>- The writing demonstrates some awareness of the audience's needs.</li> <li>- Sentences are effective with some variety.</li> <li>- The writing includes at least 3 of the following: exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The writing demonstrates some understanding of grammatical conventions, with few lapses.</li> <li>- Some careful word choices are evident.</li> </ul>
<b>Apprentice</b> (2 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some evidence of original thought is present, but the writing is based on a common theme and does not include elements of originality.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Writing includes some descriptive words and includes efforts at figurative language, but needs improvement in order to engage the reader.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The piece, while coherent, does not demonstrate an understanding of the audience's need for logic and order.</li> <li>- Some transitions are awkward.</li> <li>- Sentences structure is generally simple, with little attempt to provide variety and fluidity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are numerous grammatical errors OR the sentences are uniform and simple.</li> <li>- A few careful word choices may be evident.</li> </ul>
<b>Novice</b> (1 point)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The writing feels like a retelling and has a common theme.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Writing lacks the creative enhancements needed to engage the reader.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The piece is not organized and is therefore hard for the reader to understand.</li> <li>- Sentences are simple or fragmented.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Due to a lack of understanding of grammatical conventions and/or poor word choice, the writing is difficult to understand.</li> </ul>

Highest possible score = 16 points