Creative Writing - Division 15
Superintendents: Carol Ballent • Michael Bell
Assistant Superintendents: John Chenet • Norma Craig • Jose Maldonado • Pam Maldonado • Andrew Woodbury • Laura Yusko

Arrival Date: January 20, 2015, 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM in Arnold Hall.
Release Date: April 9, 2015, 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM in Arnold Hall.
Group Entries: Not Accepted
Award Ceremony: April 1, 2015 at 7:00 PM in Arnold Hall.

Rules:
1. Grade Levels: 4 – 12 grades; individual entries only; NO GROUP ENTRIES. Carefully review the Class descriptions below for further grade level stipulations. Students in grades 7-12 who submit entries in December 2014 for The Scholastic Writing Awards competition should not submit creative writing entries to The Fair in January. Creative writing entered in The Scholastic Writing Awards will be automatically entered in The Fair if a hard copy of the student work is submitted with the Scholastic Registration Form. Please visit http://artandwriting.org for complete entry details for The Scholastic Writing Awards.

2. Number of Entries: Each exhibitor is limited to one entry.

3. Size Specifications: Poetry (plus any art work) must be mounted to the following size specifications: 6” x 9” or 9” x 12” construction paper, depending on the length of the poetry. Do not fold entries. Maximum length of Poetry is one page. Maximum length of Short Stories is 6 pages. Maximum length of Creative Fiction is 1 page.

4. Entry Form(s) and Release Date Procedures: Teachers: To submit entries from your class, you must enclose the original copy of your Fair Entry with students’ names listed in alphabetical order. Place all entries and entry forms in a large manila envelope and clearly mark the name of the school, teacher, grade, number of entries & type(s) of entries enclosed (free verse, short story, etc.) on the outside of the envelope. These must be hand delivered to The Fair on the arrival date. Entries will not be accepted after the Arrival Date. The student’s name, school and grade must be on the front of each entry. Blank printer labels must be secured to the BACK of each entry. If necessary, labels will be available at check-in on the arrival date. On the Release Date, students may not pick up entries that were submitted by teachers. Teachers should be prepared to remove their entries from the display boards. Teachers may pick up entries submitted by other teachers. It is not the responsibility of The Fair or the division superintendent to return these entries to you.

5. Acceptable Entries: Entries must be legible, typed (one side only), and be mounted on construction paper. (See Size Specifications in Rule 3 and review the Class descriptions below) Teachers and Students: Please proofread entries before submitting them. Correct punctuation of dialogue in short stories is necessary.
6. NOT ACCEPTABLE: Entries that are handwritten or mounted on tag board will be disqualified. Do not fold entries. The following forms of poetry MAY NOT BE SUBMITTED: Haiku, Acrostics, Limericks, Diamante, Modeled Poems and Cinquain. Excessive or distracting errors in spelling, punctuation, and/or grammar will result in disqualification or lower awards.

7. Due to limited space, only entries awarded a blue, red, or white ribbon may be displayed. Only the top page of a short story will be displayed.

8. Exhibits may be reproduced & used by The Fair. Original work will be returned at check out on the release date.

9. ANY ENTRY NOT CONFORMING TO THE ABOVE RULES OR THE OFFICIAL FAIR RULES WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

10. This Division will accept only those entries made expressly for the 2015 fair. All decisions of the judges are final. The Fair management has jurisdiction over interpretation of these rules. Items entered in the wrong division will not be judged or shown. This Division is not responsible for lost/damaged items.

Class Number, Title and Description:

Class 1501 - Poetry - Free Verse: (Grades 4–12) Does not have fixed meter or rhyming pattern. May NOT include novelty forms. One page limit.

Class 1502 - Poetry - Rhymed Verse: (Grades 4–12) Fixed metrical pattern; sonnets. One page limit.

Class 1503 - Poetry - Exotic, Esoteric or Innovative Forms: (Grades 4–12) MUST have attached explanation of poetic form on back of entry or it will be disqualified. Entries must be mounted on 6” x 9” construction paper. HAIKU, ACROSTICS, DIAMANTE, MODELED POEMS OR CINQUAIN WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Class 1504 - Short Story: (Grades 6–12) Should contain an original plot and characters with any dialogue punctuated correctly. Entries are to be typed and may not exceed six pages, double-spaced, one side only of standard typing paper, stapled to one sheet of 9” x 12” construction paper. Due to space limitations, only the top page of the story will be displayed.

Class 1505 - Creative Non-Fiction: (Grades 6–12) Written work which reflects real life experiences in an original fact-based composition that remains compelling through the utilization of literary techniques. (Reports will be disqualified.) This includes, but is not limited to, memoirs and characterizations. Entries must be typed and may not exceed one page that is to be mounted on 9” x 12” construction paper. One page limit.

Judging Criteria:

Short Story/Prose: Imaginative or innovative approach; unique development of character, setting, and plot. Poetry: Effective use of language; originality in approach; mood intensity; meaningful content. Poetry MUST have spiritual, emotional, or imaginative theme. See specifications in rules 4, 5, and 6.
Creative Writing

**Premiums, Plaques and Trophies:**
Larry Thompson Award - Grades 7-12 ............................................................. Plaque
Barbara Dubé Creative Writing Award - Grades 4-6 ................................. Plaque

First Place .................................................................................................. Fair Pen and Pencil Set
Second Place .............................................................................................. Fair Pen
Third Place .................................................................................................. Ribbon
Fourth Place .................................................................................................. Ribbon
Judges’ Award ............................................................................................. Special Award Rosette

If there are no entries meeting the quality standards for any special awards, no award will be given.