

Announcing
The Harford County Reading Council's
29th Annual Young Authors Writing Contest
SHORT STORY/ESSAY &
POETRY

The Young Author's Writing Committee is proud to announce the opportunity for students to write a short story/essay or poem on any topic or theme. Each student may submit **only one** writing piece.

**** DUE – Dec. 18th ****

Join us in making this year a special year of celebrating writing as we recognize our Harford County young authors! What a wonderful opportunity for all students to have an authentic and engaging purpose for writing as well as a forum for celebrating and publicizing their work and efforts in writing.

 ****Submission Guidelines**** 

1. All entries must be the student's original work. *Proofreading assistance* (spelling, punctuation, capitalization, etc) may be provided by peers or adults, but *content revisions* should be student generated. Teachers are asked not to revise or give revision ideas. At the elementary level, it is stipulated that the writing **must be done in school**. *Entries in Pre-K, K, & 1st may be dictated by the student and recorded by the teacher.
2. At the elementary level, each teacher may submit a maximum of 2 short stories and 2 poetry entries per class. Only one student's piece can be submitted to the committee for judging (you can't submit a poem and short story by the same writer).
3. **All entries** should be neatly printed or typed on one side. Save typed copies.
4. **The size of the paper** should be no larger than 8 ½" x 11" (no story paper) and the length for **elementary students** must not exceed **3 typed pages (double spaced)**. Hand written pages for elementary students should NOT exceed **9 pages**. The font FOR WINNING ENTRIES should be either **Times New Roman or Comic Sans** with 12 point size. Do **NOT** print names anywhere on the writing piece. Names should **ONLY** be on the submission forms.
5. ***THIS YEAR*** AGAIN the included **submission form** must be completed (pg. #3). It **must be stapled at the back** of each entry facing out. The story can be stapled if it's more than one page.
6. Each entry will be judged by a group of Harford County teachers. Please remind students of school appropriate language and content.



IMPORTANT Reminder!

TEACHERS: Please make a copy of each piece of writing you submit for judging, as the entries will not be returned.

**ALL contest entries due to judging committee by:
Tuesday, December 22, 2009**

**DUE DATE: ALL Entries sent to the following by
Friday, December 18, 2009**



Late entries will not be accepted.

SEND ENTRIES TO the following:

- (Pre-K/K & 1st): Mary Murphy @ Churchville Elementary**
- (2nd): Colleen Gambrell @ Forest Hill Elementary**
- (3rd): Shirley Berends @ Forest Hill Elementary**
- (4th): Tracey Evans @ Bakerfield Elementary**
- (5th): Lynn Blom @ Jarrettsville Elementary**

For Questions Please check out the information on HCPS Share

PLEASE NOTE: First Place Winning Entries in grades 2-12 will be submitted to the state Young Authors Contest with publication in the SoMIRAC Young Author's magazine for 2009. Winners will be invited to SoMIRAC's reception at Hunt Valley in April.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION:

- **Each group will have 3 winners in the short story/essay and poetry category.** Students will be honored at a reception in the boardroom at the A.A. Roberty Building with families, friends, teachers, and administrators. A second celebration will be sponsored by HCRC in conjunction with Barnes & Noble. Details about the celebrations will be forthcoming at a later date.
- Judging will take place in early January with winners to be contacted no later than the end of January.
- All students whose entries are submitted for consideration will receive a certificate of participation. (Teachers will receive this electronically in January to distribute.)



State Of Maryland International
Reading Association Council

YOUNG AUTHORS CONTEST SoMIRAC 2009-2010 Elementary & Middle School COVER SHEET

<u>Student/Author's Name:</u>	<u>Student's full name (as it should appear in the publication)</u>
<u>Student/Author's Home Address:</u>	<u>(street, city, state, zip)</u>
<u>Student/Author's Home Phone:</u>	
<u>Email Address:</u>	
<u>School Name/ Address:</u>	
<u>Grade:</u>	<u>Grade:</u>
<u>Teacher: First/Last Name</u>	<u>Mr., Mrs., Ms (circle one)</u>
<u>Teacher Email:</u>	
<u>Local Reading Council:</u>	<u>Harford County Reading Council</u>
<u>Title of Entry:</u>	<u>Title:</u> <u>Circle one: POEM SHORT STORY/ESSAY</u>

Permission for Publication

I, _____, give permission for
Print Parent first and last name

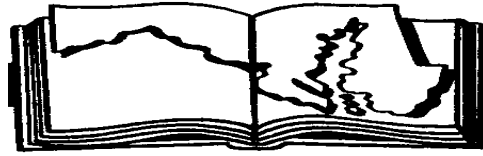
SoMIRAC representatives to reproduce my child's work in an anthology of writing, in the event my child becomes a State Winner.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

ANNOUNCING

SoMIRAC's 2009 - 2010



State Of Maryland International
Reading Association Council

Young Authors Contest Elementary School

Who: Students in Grades Pre K-5

What: Write a Poem or Short
Story/Essay



- ✎ Entries must be original work.
- ✎ All entries with 12 point font using either Times New Roman or Comic Sans font.
- ✎ Short story/essay entry may range from a minimum of two (2) paragraphs to no more than three (3) typed pages (double spaced).
- ✎ Each poem entry will consist of a single poem, which may be any style or length.
- ✎ Entries must not include graphics.
- ✎ NO NAMES on writing piece!
- ✎ Include a completed "Cover Sheet" signed by the student author, parent, and sponsoring teacher.

For additional details and guidelines see your teacher.

Entries sent by Friday, December 18, 2009

Promoting Literacy in Maryland since 1972