

GFWC-WI Youth Short Story and Poetry Contest Rules

- Entries must be typed, double-spaced, printed on one side only, with minimum margins of one-inch (1") on all four sides, on 8.5 x 11-inch paper.
- Entries must be written during the contest year. January 1 – December 31, 2024 or the following year from January 1 to December 31 of 2025.
- Entries **must have the following** on the top right-hand corner of **each** page.
 - Author's full name, email address, mailing address, and phone number.
 - Author's school name and district, or home school supervisor
 - Name of the GFWC Club submitting the entry and GFWC-WI
 - Category – Poetry or Short Story
 - Title of Work
 - Page Number
 - Grade Level Category
 - Category 1: Grades K, 1, and 2
 - Category 2: Grades 3, 4, and 5
 - Category 3: Grades 6, 7, and 8
 - Category 4: Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12
- Authors must be amateurs; earnings from writing may not exceed \$500 annually.
- Entries may not have been published prior to the competition and must be original works by the authors.
- A signed **GFWC Creative Arts Waiver must be included** with each submission. **This waiver must also be signed by a parent.** A copy of the waiver is available on page 16 of this document.
- One entry per youth per category.

- Short stories are limited to 2,000 words. Word count must be indicated at the end of the story.
- Poetry entries can be any style, with a minimum length of eight lines and a maximum of 50 lines.
- Clubs must send via United States Postal Service winning entries – one poem and one short story per category – to the GFWC-WI Writing Contest Chairman for judging. Please include the signed Creative Arts Waiver.

- The 2024-2026 GFWC-WI Chairman:

Diane Zickert
230 Achievement Drive, Apt A6
Brillion, WI 54110-1211

- The entries must be postmarked on or before February 12 of the given year (2/12/2025 and 2/12/2026) to the GFWC-WI Chairman.
- GFWC-WI Chairman shall choose judges to select first place in each category.
- The GFWC-WI Chairman will submit one winning GFWC-WI entry per writing contest, per category, and ensure that the work is received by the National GFWC Writing Contests Chairman National no later than April 1 of the given year.
- **Manuscripts will not be returned.** All authors should keep an original copy of the entry.
- By submitting a short story or poem to GFWC-WI or GFWC, you are providing GFWC-WI or GFWC with royalty-free perpetual license to use, reproduce, post, display, create derivative works, sell, license the work in any media known or later invented without limitation, for commercial or non-commercial purposes.

