

YOUNG AUTHOR'S WRITING CONTEST

Guidelines

SPRINGS Young Authors' Writing Contest is for homeschool students in grades TK-8. Each contest consists of five entry categories: TK-1, 2-3, 4, 5-6, & 7-8.

There are two categories for the contest (Newberry & Caldecott). Students may submit an entry to only ONE contest. There will be a 1st and 2nd place winner for each category. All others will place 3rd for each entry category and for each contest. All entries must be received by December 15, 2023.

Please note that the Young Author's Contest and in-house judging is separate from The Imagination Machine selection of stories they select to act out at the February 2nd assembly. Although we will submit the same student stories to The Imagination Machine, a student could win first place for their story category with our Springs contest, but it may be a story that is too difficult to be acted out by the Imagination Machine. We are just clarifying so there is no confusion. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you need further clarification.

CALDECOTT ENTRIES (PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR STUDENT'S NAME AND GRADE LEVEL APPEARS ON THE WORK THEY SUBMIT)

1. Caldecott entries must include illustrations. The text should complement the art work.
2. Text can be typed, handwritten or computer generated. Any font type and color is allowed.
3. Both artwork and text must be the sole creation of the student -- TK - K students may dictate their story to their parents.
4. There is a page limit for this contest. Please do not send entries over this limit. Caldecott submissions should not exceed 10 pages.
5. Students can create illustrations using any medium that they would like (e.g. paints, inks, crayons, markers, original computer graphics, cut paper or sponge painting).
6. Include a title and the young author's name.
7. The story must be fiction.

A SPRINGS Caldecott will be awarded based on the work as a whole (pictures and text). We realize our youngest writers may not include many words in their stories!

NEWBERRY ENTRIES (PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR STUDENT'S NAME AND GRADE LEVEL APPEARS ON THE WORK THEY SUBMIT)

1. Newberry entries cannot have illustrations due to the nature of our contest.
2. Newberry Stories can be submitted as a typed document using 12 point Times or Times New Roman fonts.
3. Newberry submissions should not exceed four pages typed (double-spaced) or handwritten. Paper can be no larger than 8 1/2 x 11 in size.
4. Provide a title page or cover including student name. The title page is not part of the page count.
5. Text must be the sole creation of the student.
6. Story must be fiction.
7. Number the pages.

Feel free to use one of the Imagination Machine Story Templates. [TK-K HERE](#), [1st/2nd HERE](#), [3rd/4th HERE](#). [5th-8th HERE](#)

Please fill out the information below. Please select a category (Newberry or Caldecott). All entries must be received by December 15, 2023. Please upload stories to this Drop Box. [UPLOAD STORIES HERE!](#) Please fill out one form for each student participating.

THE IMAGINATION MACHINE
STORY GUIDELINES (Stories To Be Performed @ Part 2)

Your students are important to us! In order to give them the greatest opportunity to have their writings performed, please make sure to follow the guidelines listed below.

- 1. Each story submitted must be labeled with the student's FULL name, grade level and teacher's name.**
- 2. We accept as many stories per class as teachers can provide. We would rather have too many than too few.**
- 3. We accept stories from one or two sentences on up to, but NOT exceeding, TWO PAGES.**
- 4. Please avoid using specific prompts. Variety, creativity & imagination are highly encouraged.**
- 5. All submitted stories must be on paper no larger than 8 1/2 x 11.**
- 6. All grade levels are encouraged to participate.**
- 7. Stories may be written individually or by a class collaboration of two or more authors.**

WRITINGS THAT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED:

- 1. Due to the memorization required on a daily basis, we are not able to perform plays. (AKA scripts.)**
- 2. We cannot accept, nor be responsible for the safety of any books (bound material) submitted.**