

**COLLEGE LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION  
CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST  
OFFICIAL CONTEST GUIDELINES  
2018**

The College Language Association (CLA) invites submissions in the genres of poetry, fiction, and drama from undergraduate and graduate students at CLA participating colleges or universities for the 2018 CLA Creative Writing Contest.

**Submissions Open:** September 1, 2017

**Deadline:** December 1, 2017

**Winners:** \$500/each

**Honorable Mentions:** \$75/each

Please read Contest Guidelines carefully as submissions that do not conform to all guidelines will be disqualified.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

The contest is open to any student (undergraduate or graduate) who is presently attending a College Language Association college or university. A CLA college or university is defined as one where a member of CLA is employed or is a retiree emeritus. A student may enter the contest only through the sponsorship of an active CLA member. An active CLA member is defined as one who is **current** with his/her Membership fees.

## **SPONSORS**

Students should contact a CLA Representative at their institution. The CLA Representative will sign as FACULTY SPONSOR on the Official Entry Form only when he or she has determined that the submission has literary merit and meets all guidelines. The OFFICIAL CONTEST GUIDELINES and OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM may be accessed and printed from the Creative Writing Contest link at [https://www.clascholars.org/awards/#creative\\_writing](https://www.clascholars.org/awards/#creative_writing)

## **GUIDELINES**

- a. Submissions must be typed in Times or Times New Roman, 12-point font, and be double-spaced. Pages should be numbered. The genre of the submission should be listed on the

first page of all submissions: poetry, fiction, drama. Word count should be listed on the first page of short fiction and drama entries.

- b. Students' names should appear only on the Official Entry Form. The name and other markings should not appear on any page of the work itself. Submissions received without an Official Entry Form signed by a Faculty Sponsor will not be accepted.
- c. Submissions must be unpublished. (This means they may not have appeared on any website, including personal blogs, tumblr, etc.)
- d. Students may submit up to three poems. No poem should exceed 30 lines.
- e. Fiction should not exceed 2500 words. (List word count on first page.)
- f. Drama (short plays) should not exceed 5000 words. (List word count on first page.)
- g. A \$10 processing fee paid to [CLA Paypal](https://www.clascholars.org/product/creative-writing-contest-fee/) for Creative Writing must accompany all submissions. Students may submit in multiple genres, or multiple entries in one genre, but must remit a \$10 processing fee for each submission. Proof of payment (scanned copy of Paypal receipt) must be submitted with each entry. Link to Paypal: <https://www.clascholars.org/product/creative-writing-contest-fee/>.
- h. Contest submissions open **September 1, 2017**. Submissions must be emailed to [clacwcontest@gmail.com](mailto:clacwcontest@gmail.com) by 5 p.m. (EST), **December 1, 2017**. **Submissions received prior to September 1, 2017 and after December 1, 2017 will be ineligible.** Students should keep a copy of the work as all submissions will be destroyed when the contest period ends.

## GUIDELINES FOR EMAILING

- a. Email Official Entry Form, Paypal Receipt, and Creative Writing Submission(s) to: [clacwcontest@gmail.com](mailto:clacwcontest@gmail.com).
  - These documents should be submitted in one email as two separate attachments in Word Doc or PDF. The Official Entry Form and [PayPal receipt](#) should be in one document. The Creative Writing Submission should be the second attachment.
  - If submitting in more than one genre (or submitting multiple entries in the same genre) each creative writing submission should be a separate attachment. You may, of course, submit multiple entries in the same email. As noted, the email

must contain the Official Entry Form and Paypal Receipt. Submissions sent without the Official Entry Form and Paypal Receipt the submission will be deemed ineligible.

- b. In the subject area of the email please list the genre of the entry: poetry, fiction, or drama. If your email includes multiple genres, specify each genre.

**Submission Check List:**

\_\_\_ Official Entry Form and [Paypal Receipt](#) (in one document, Word Doc or PDF)

\_\_\_ Creative Writing Submission (Word Doc or PDF, numbered pages, Times New Roman font, genre specified on first page, list word count on first page of fiction and drama submissions)

\_\_\_ In the subject heading of the email, list the genre of the entry: poetry, fiction, drama. If your submission includes multiple genres, please specify each genre.

**JUDGING AND NOTIFICATION OF AWARDS**

A panel of three Judges will evaluate entries. Submissions will be judged holistically (originality, literary merit, characterization, and other elements of craft will be considered). There can be up to three winners, and an Honorable Mention in each category. Winners of each category will receive \$500 each, and Honorable Mentions in each category receive \$75 each. CLA reserves the right not to administer awards if submissions are not deemed eligible.

Winners will be notified in February 2018. Names of winners will be announced at the CLA Annual Conference Banquet. Names of winners will also appear in the summer issue of *CLA Journal*. Checks will be mailed to winners.

For questions please contact: [clacwcontest@gmail.com](mailto:clacwcontest@gmail.com)

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