

2013 Southeast Wisconsin Festival of Books Century Fence Middle & High School Student Essay Contest

This contest is open to all middle school and high school students. Students will submit an original essay based on the theme listed below. There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners chosen from both the middle school and high school categories.

Prizes: 1st place - \$250

2nd place - \$175

3rd place - \$75

Official presentation of the awards will be made at the authors' reception the evening of Friday Sept. 20. Winners must be able to appear at the authors' reception to accept their awards. In addition, 1st place winners must be available to read their essays at the 2013 Southeast Wisconsin Festival of Books on Saturday, Sept.22.

Theme: TO BOOKS AND BEYOND - LITERACY WITHOUT LIMITS

Inspired by one of their favorite space travelers and passion for reading, the Southeast Wisconsin Festival of Book organizers have chosen "To Books & Beyond- Literacy without Limits" as the theme for the 2013 event.

Readers and writers are mental travelers. Both find inspiration anywhere and everywhere. Books have the power to transport us to the past or to strange new futures. They help us understand the minds that helped shape our time as much as they shape the minds of the future. There are those among us that find inspiration in nature while others find theirs in the light and dark of human nature itself.

In your essay answer the questions:

- *What does this theme mean to you?*
- *What does reading mean to you? Write about your reading experience. Describe how reading has taken you beyond your world. Provide specific detail about how your limits have been expanded through books.*

Contest Guidelines

1. Contest entries should be thoughtful, well-written essays of 600-750 words on the assigned topic for high school students and up to 400-500 words for middle school students. Entries should be single-spaced and may be typed or legibly handwritten.
2. Submissions must be unpublished, original work. An essay that has won a contest elsewhere will not be accepted.
3. Entries should reflect the original words and ideas of the writer. Quotations from an outside source or author must be given credit to that source by citing the author, publication, title, and date. Plagiarism will be considered cause for elimination.
4. To be eligible, each entry must be accompanied by the official Festival Contest Entry Form. This form must be filled out completely and signed both by the student and a parent or guardian. By completing and signing the entry form, a student certifies that it is his or her own work. Please submit only one essay. Multiple entries will not be considered.
5. All entries must be received by August 15, 2013. Entries should be mailed as follows:

Festival Essays

Attn: Southeast Wisconsin Festival of Books Coordinator

UW-Waukesha Foundation, Inc.

1500 N. University Dr.

Waukesha, WI 53188



Entry Form
2013 Southeast Wisconsin Festival of Books
Century Fence Middle & High School Student Essay Contest

Student Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____

Please give the information below for the Spring Semester 2013. Your category (high school or middle school) will be based on your status in the Spring Semester of 2013.

School _____

Grade _____

Teacher _____

Home schooled

E-mail to be used for notification of winners:

By signing this form, I certify that this is my own original work and that it has not been previously published or awarded as part of another contest.

(Student Signature) (Date)

(Signature of Parent or Guardian) (Date)