

LITERARY ARTS AWARDS 2010

Guidelines

DEADLINES

The deadline for receiving the 2010 literary Awards entries, the 2010 scholarship entries, and the 2010 Literary Magazine Competition entries is January 13, 2010. Complete entry guidelines are given below. **Entries not conforming to complete guidelines will be disqualified.** Mail entries to:

HSLAA

Alabama Writers' Forum
P.O.Box 4777
Montgomery, AL 36103-4777

For more information, contact the Forum toll free at 866-901-1117 or writersforum@bellsouth.net.

ELIGIBILITY

The Literary Arts Awards, including the Literary Magazine Competition, are open to Alabama high school students grades 9-12, and scholarships are available to seniors in Alabama high schools.

LITERARY ARTS AWARDS

Marie Stokes Jemison Creative Nonfiction: 1st place (\$150), 2nd place (\$75), "Judge's Special Recognition"

Poetry: 1st place (\$150), 2nd place (\$75), "Judge's Special Recognition"

Short Fiction: 1st place (\$150), 2nd place (\$75), "Judge's Special Recognition"

Drama: 1st place (\$150), 2nd place (\$75), "Judge's Special Recognition"

Each winner receives a book signed by the author. Each school receives a plaque listing winners and their teachers.

Additional certificates of merit are given at the judge's discretion.

JUDGING

Writers in the fields of creative nonfiction, drama, poetry, and fiction will choose the winning entries. The names of the judges will be announced when the awards announcement is made.

FORMAT FOR ENTRIES

Submit entries in a 9"x 12" envelope. Submit clear photocopies only; students should retain originals. No manuscripts can be returned. Do not attempt to send entries via fax. Students' names should appear only on the entry forms since all works are judged anonymously. All short fiction, drama, and creative nonfiction entries should be typed and double-spaced. Poetry entries may be typed single-spaced or double-spaced. **Students must designate on the entry form the category for which they wish the work to be considered.**

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS IN LITERARY ARTS

The scholarship awards in literary arts are open to seniors in good standing in Alabama high schools. Up to five cash awards of \$500 each are given. Portfolios placed in consideration of the scholarship awards in literary arts will be judged anonymously

by a judge from the fields of literature or creative writing. Awards are based solely on merit of works submitted. A portfolio of approximately 20-50 pages of work from at least two categories is required.

All entries should be typed and double-spaced, one side only. Poetry may be single-spaced.

CATEGORIES FOR PORTFOLIO WORK

- **Poetry** (three shorter poems, or longer works totaling no more than 10 pages)
- **Short Fiction** (20-page limit)
- **Creative Nonfiction** (15-page limit)
- **Chapter(s) from a novel** accompanied by a one-page synopsis of the novel (25-page limit)
- **Drama** (25-page limit)
- **Scholarly essay or research paper** with a creative focus (10-page limit)

FORMAT FOR PORTFOLIOS

Submit one copy of portfolio. Students should retain originals. No manuscript can be returned. Make clear photocopies. Do not attempt to send entries via fax. Students' names should appear only on the entry form. A title page, in addition to the required entry form, should list the names of the individual works that make up the portfolio with each work's category designated.

LITERARY MAGAZINE COMPETITION

Alabama high school literary magazines will be judged on quality of writing, layout and design, and illustration. The Forum stresses that this is not a graphic design contest and that literary merit is the main focus of the category. A panel of editors will evaluate the publications.

Awards will be made in three areas: **literary content** (\$150 cash award and plaque), **layout and design for a literary magazine** (\$150 cash award and plaque), and **best combined content and design** (\$250 cash award and plaque). The judges will not make awards unless they find appropriate entries. At the Awards event, magazines that were entered will be displayed and the winning editorial staff members will be invited to attend.

To enter, **send two copies each of two issues** of the magazine published between 2007-2009, **along with the required entry form** to the address shown on that entry form. Magazines must have been published for at least two consecutive years to be eligible to enter and must consist solely of original student work.

HOW TO MAIL ENTRIES

Mail entries in envelopes clearly marked "Literary Arts Awards," "Scholarship Entry," or "Literary Magazine Entry" in the lower left corner. Please **DO NOT** use binders, folders, or any type of cover. Paper clip or staple pages together. Mail to Alabama Writers' Forum at the address above.

Official announcement of all awards will be made at the Literary Arts Award reception in Montgomery. Teachers with winning students will be notified by fax prior to the Awards.