



Books on the Bosque

WRITING CONTEST GUIDELINES

SPONSORED BY THE BOSQUE ARTS CENTER – CLIFTON, TX



Entry Deadline: September 19, 2022

\$1,200 in Cash Prizes

Awards by category: **\$250** first place | **\$100** second place | **\$50** third place

Entry Fee: **\$10/entry**

Categories

- 1. Short Story:** Short fiction with traditional literary elements
- 2. Creative Nonfiction Essay:** Factual piece written in engaging, narrative style
- 3. Poetry – Rhymed or Unrhymed:** Verse that observes the more traditional poetry conventions *or* free verse style not bound by rhyme scheme, meter, etc.

ENTRIES OPEN JULY 1, 2022

ELIGIBILITY

All submissions—digital or mailed—must be received by the deadline, **Monday, September 19, 2022.**

E-mail submissions are acceptable. (See Payments section for options on paying for digital entries.)

There is no limit on the number of pieces a writer may enter in any category.

Contestants must be at least 14 years of age. (Parent or guardian must co-sign entry form for entrants under 18 years of age.)

Works submitted to other contests are accepted.

Previously published works are accepted, as long as no rights will be violated should the entrant give publication permission to the Bosque Arts Center.

Entrant retains all rights to manuscripts submitted but may opt to give the Bosque Arts Center (BAC) permission to publish winning entries on the BAC website. Winners may also be offered the option of granting one-time rights to a publication partnering with the BAC to honor contest winners.

By entering this contest, you certify that the work(s) you submit are your work(s) of original concept.

Works submitted must not violate copyright or infringe on any rights held by a third party. The Bosque Arts Center is not liable for any copyright infringement on the part of entrants.

The BAC reserves the right to reject work that does not meet entry criteria.

AWARDS

Cash Awards for each category: **\$250** first place | **\$100** second place | **\$50** third place

The contest judge may or may not cite honorable mentions, with no monetary prize given.

Winners will be announced and awards presented at the luncheon during the Books on the Bosque conference on **Saturday, November 12**. Winners will be posted on the Bosque Arts Center website and Facebook page the week after the conference, and winners not present will also be notified by email, mail, or phone.

Notification letters will be sent to all entrants. Judges may offer comments on a critique sheet, in which case the sheet will be included, but critiques are not guaranteed.

Manuscripts will be returned only if a self-addressed envelope with appropriate postage is provided.

FEES AND PAYMENTS

The \$10 per entry fee is non-refundable.

Payment may be made online, by mailed check with accompanying entry form, or by calling the Bosque Arts Center with a credit card. Payment must be received in advance of the deadline or entries will not be considered.

To make payment online, go to the Tickets page of the BAC website. Click on the button below the BOOKS ON THE BOSQUE WRITING CONTEST that says "Get General Admission Tickets" to purchase "tickets" to enter manuscripts. In the blank for "Ticket Holder or Guest Name," enter instead the name of manuscript and click "Add Ticket." Fill in a blank and add a ticket for every manuscript you enter. When all titles are entered, proceed to the payment page.

ENTRY INFORMATION

All contestants must fill out an entry form with contact information and a list of all works entered in the contest. The entry form must be submitted with the entries.

FORMATTING GUIDELINES

1. Entries must be typed in English.
2. All entries must be accompanied by a cover sheet with the following information:
 - TITLE
 - NAME OF AUTHOR
 - PHONE NUMBER, EMAIL (or both)
 - CATEGORY
 - WORD COUNT (prose) or NUMBER OF LINES (poetry)
 - NUMBER OF PAGES (not including cover sheet)
3. Manuscripts should have title centered at the top of the first page. All pages following must have the **TITLE** of the work followed by the **page number** at the center or top right corner of the page. ***Author's name MUST NOT be included in manuscript pages.***
4. Manuscripts must use a 12-point legible font (e.g. Arial, Calibri, Times New Roman, etc.) with 1-inch margins.
5. PDF files are preferred for emailed entries (so that formatting is retained) but Word documents will also be accepted.

GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO CATEGORY

Prose

- Double-spaced
- Paragraphs indented
- 2,000-word limit

Poetry

- Single-spaced
- 50-line limit

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