

2019 - 2020
NCRA Young Authors' Project
"The Magical Power of Words"

WRITING GUIDELINES

THEME

The theme for the Young Authors' Project is "**The Magical Power of Words.**" Young Authors are encouraged to write about how words have impacted their lives, or the lives of others. They may write about the power of words in their lives, whether those words have been positive or negative. Authors may choose to share the story behind special words, like their name and its origin, or a special nickname and the story behind it. Authors may choose to share about the impact of words on themselves, other individuals or society as a whole. Authors may write about words and their power to open the lines of communication, or may write about their experiences learning a new language and how those words have impacted their lives. (These ideas are exhaustive, but meant merely to serve as ideas to get you started.) Authors may write prose or poetry, fiction or non-fiction.

GUIDELINES

- All entries must be original creations.
- Only 1 entry per person and 1 person per entry may be submitted.
*(*NOTE: Authors may also choose to submit for the art contest, but again, may only submit one piece of writing and one piece of art, total.)*
- All entries must be typed and saved to a disk/drive in Word (.doc or .docx) or Goggle doc.
- All entries must have participated in a local level judging before being submitted to the state judging level.
- All entries must be coached & submitted by a member of MCRA/NCRA.
- Forever Young authors must be members of MCRA/NCRA.

FORMAT

All entries should:

- Be submitted to MCRA in Microsoft Word format converted to a Google Doc in the Official Young Author Google Folder as provided by the NCRA BOD.
- Use 10 point, "Times New Roman" font, single spaced, for the **body** of the piece.
- Include an original **title**, typed in bold, 12 point type, with only the first letter of each major word in the title capitalized.
- Include **author information** after the body of the piece. Skip two lines and then center the following information (3 lines total) in 10 point:

Author's First and Last Name, Grade ____ (numerical) or Forever Young
Teacher's First and Last Name (Teacher: Name)
School

Example:

Maria Smith, Grade 7
Teacher: Bob Garcia
Elise Middle School

LENGTH OF ENTRIES (body of work only)

Grades K-1 : Entries should have no more than **200** words.

Grades 2-5 : Entries should have no more than **300** words.

Grades 6-8: Entries should have no more than **400** words.

Grades 9-12 and Forever Young : Entries should have no more than **500** words.