

2019-2020 SHORT STORY Guidelines

**ALL STATE ENTRY SHORT STORIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FEBRUARY 14, 2020.
PLEASE MAIL TO: KARI STRAUBE, P.O. BOX 364, CALMAR, IA 52132**

- Kindergarten - First Grade:** Students may dictate a story if the student's writing skills are still being developed.
Second - Twelfth Grades: These students must write their own stories.

PLEASE NOTE: Stories that do not follow the requirements, as outlined below, can be disqualified!

**THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS MUST BE FOLLOWED FOR THE
ENTRY TO BE CONSIDERED**

- *Manuscripts must be written in prose (story format). Please follow the following length requirements:
 - Kindergarten – Grade Three: 500 words *or less*
 - Grade Four – Grade Eight: 750 words *or less*
 - Grade Nine – Grade Twelve: 1,000 words *or less*
- *Short story entries are judged according to: **continuity, creativity/originality, clearly defined and developed story elements, originality, organization and technical mechanics.**
- *Student name should **NOT** be on the front of the manuscript.
- ***Title and grade level** must be on the front page.
- ***FOUR typed copies of the manuscript will be mailed to the chairperson of the local writing committee**---Of these four copies, THREE typed copies of the local winning manuscript need to be mailed to the state writing committee chairperson. The FOURTH copy should remain with the local council, as the submitted copies will not be returned.
- *Manuscripts must be **double spaced** and **typed**. **NO ILLUSTRATIONS, BORDERS, OR FRAMES!**
- *The current, full page, entry label must be the final/back page of **each** manuscript; just staple as a last page to the entry. **Complete all** the information. **Please type or print neatly in blue or black ink!** There **must** be a *current* entry form with **each copy** of the submitted story (use the entry form with 2019-20 date.)

2019-2020 POETRY Guidelines

**ALL STATE ENTRY POEMS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FEBRUARY 14, 2020.
PLEASE MAIL TO: MARLENE REECE, P.O. BOX 73, NEW PROVIDENCE, IA 50206.**

- Kindergarten - First Grade:** Students may dictate a poem if the student's writing skills are still being developed.
Second - Twelfth Grades: These students must write their own poem.

PLEASE NOTE: Poems that do not follow the requirements, as outlined below, can be disqualified!

**THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS MUST BE FOLLOWED FOR THE
ENTRY TO BE CONSIDERED**

- *Poems must be **double spaced** and **typed** (unless using an unusual format). **NO ILLUSTRATIONS!**
- *Poems will be judged according to: **interest stimulated, response evoked, creativity and originality, conciseness of vocabulary creating an image, rhythm, spelling – unless for effect and appearance.**
- *Student name should **NOT** be on the front of the poem.
- ***Title and grade level** must be on the front page. **NO ILLUSTRATIONS, BORDERS, OR FRAMES!**
- ***FOUR typed copies of the manuscript will be mailed to the chairperson of the local writing committee**--- Of these four copies, THREE typed copies of the local winning manuscript need to be mailed to the state writing committee chairperson. The FOURTH copy should remain with the local council, as the submitted copies will not be returned.
- *The current, full page, entry form must be the final/back page of **each** manuscript; just staple as a last page to the entry. **Complete all** the information. **Please type or print neatly in blue or black ink!** There **must** be a *current* entry form with **each copy** of the submitted poem (use the entry form with 2019-2020 date.)