

2019-2020 CREATIVE WRITING CHAIRPERSONS
SHORT STORY/POETRY CONTEST
RULES AND GUIDELINES

To: Local Chairperson of Short Story/Poetry Contest
Local President of Iowa Reading Council

From: Kari Straube and Barbra Carroll

Re: Short Story/Poetry Guidelines, 2019-2020

Thank you for promoting the Iowa Reading Association's Short Story and Poetry Contests!

Local chairpersons should announce the Young Authors Short Story/Poetry Contest as soon as possible during the first month of school. Copies of the attached guidelines should be distributed to all schools in your council area (**Please do not forward this page to the schools**). Please forward your local chairperson's name and contact information, and **local deadline** via email to Kari and Barbra, so we can better communicate throughout the year. This updated information will be posted on the Iowa Reading Association website.

It is best to establish a realistic deadline for your local council to ensure that the winning manuscripts are post-marked to the state level **no later than February 14, 2021**. Local chairpersons, please have your return address, including council name, on the envelope in which you submit your manuscripts. Also, please make sure that **your information is at the bottom of each entry form, as well, and double check to make sure all the information the student/teacher submitted is printed in black or blue ink and LEGIBLE.** Thanks!

Local councils should send only first place manuscripts in each grade level category to the state competition. Entry forms on winning entries must be legible. Three poems and three short stories for each grade level will be recognized at the state level. First place winners and their teachers will be notified by mail. All STATE winners will be posted on the Iowa Reading Association's website.

First place state winners will be honored at the Iowa Reading Association's annual conference in Ames. They will receive their certificate at that time. If they are unable to attend, the certificate will be mailed to them. Congratulatory letters and certificates will be mailed to the second and third place state winners at each grade level (short story and poetry).

Send winning manuscripts no later than February 14, 2021 to the appropriate state chairperson:

Short Story:

Kari Straube
P.O. Box 364
Calmar, IA 52132
kstraube@nfv.k12.ia.us

Poetry:

Marlene Reece
P.O. Box 73
New Providence IA 50206
recedennismarlene966@gmail.com

Please remember...

Three typed copies of each winning short story/poem need to be sent to the state chairperson. (listed above) Make sure each copy has a current, completed entry form stapled behind the final page of each of the three copies of the manuscript and is legible. We use this information to contact students and teachers. ***All information must be typed or written clearly in blue or black ink to be considered as a final entry.*** Current entry forms are available online at our Iowa Reading Association website. <http://www.iowareading.org>

NEW this year: Please write the local contest deadline on the entry form.

*When submitting winning manuscripts, please make sure **all** sections of the label are completed.*