

**GUIDELINES FOR 2017 CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST**  
**sponsored by**  
**WYTHEVILLE CHAUTAUQUA FESTIVAL**  
**June 16-24, 2017**

This contest is sponsored by the Wytheville Chautauqua Festival and is open to all amateur writers. Below is the information you will need to enter the contest.

CATEGORIES:                      Short story—under 5,000 words  
    Essay—under 2,000 words  
    Poetry—under 50 lines  
    *New category* Songwriting – Under four minutes

AGE GROUPS:                      Students, 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> grades  
    Students, 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades  
    Adult Category (including college students)

PRIZES:                      Prizes will be awarded in each category if the judges determine that the quality of the entries merits recognition. The following expected amounts may be reduced if entry fees are less than anticipated:

	<u>Students, 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Students, 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Adult Category</u>
1 <sup>st</sup>	\$15.00	\$25.00	\$60.00
2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$10.00	\$15.00	\$40.00
3 <sup>rd</sup>	\$ 5.00	\$10.00	\$20.00

**RULES:**

1. The contest is open only to amateur writers. You will be considered professional if you receive at least one third of your income from writing or if you teach creative writing at the college level.
2. Do not submit works that have been previously published.
3. Submit only one manuscript per category (i.e., only one poem, one essay, one short story), but enter as many categories as you wish.
4. Submit two typed originals or typed photocopies, one to be retained by committee, one to be sent to judges. Please retain a copy of your manuscript, as none will be returned. Include with each manuscript a removable title page containing your name, address, phone number, email address (if available), age group, and the literary category. Your name should not appear on any other page.

For songwriting submissions: two CDs of the song and two printed copies of the lyrics must be included, (will not be returned).

5. Enclose a check or money order for entry fee as follows: \$10 for each Adult Category entry; free for each 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade Student entry. **Make checks payable to Wythe Arts Council.**

Teachers: Ask your students to provide a bibliography for any research material they use in essays.

6. Send entries to Chautauqua Creative Writing Contest, P.O. Box 911, Wytheville, VA, 24382. **Entries must be postmarked by May 15 2017.**
7. Winners will be notified prior to June 17, 2017. Non-winners will not be notified.
8. Awards will be presented on Friday, June 23, 2017, at the Wytheville Chautauqua Festival’s Creative Writing Day. Winners will be asked to attend to receive their prizes.