

**GFWC NEW YORK
CREATIVE WRITING CONTESTS**
(Club Information)

Rhoda Zucker, Chairman
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Guidelines and procedures for entry in the GFWC New York Creative Writing Contest:

The contests are open to any dues-paying member in good standing and youth, grades K-12. The Writing Contests seek to provide an avenue for GFWC members and youth of all ages to freely express themselves, as well as draw upon their experiences through writing. If the rules are not completely followed, your entry could be disqualified.

MEMBER SHORT STORY AND POETRY CONTESTS

Rules

1. Authors must be of amateur status: earning from writings must not exceed \$500 annually.
2. Manuscripts entered may not have been published prior to the competition and must be original work of the author.
3. Entries must be typed, **double-spaced**, with minimum margins of 1 inch on all four sides, one side only, on 8 ½" x 11" paper. Spelling counts.
4. **Short Stories** limited to 2000 words.
5. **Poems** can be any style with a minimum length of eight lines and maximum length of 50 lines.
6. All entries must be written during the contest calendar year.
7. Entries **must** have the following in the **top right hand corner of each page**:
 - Author's name, email address, mailing address, and phone number
 - Name of author's GFWC club and State Federation
 - Category
 - Title of work
8. **All entries must include the signed Creative Arts Waiver** (which can be found in this section of the Handbook).

Manuscripts will not be returned. Authors should keep a copy.

Deadlines:

District – February 1

First Place Club winners to the District Creative Writing chairman for judging.

State – March 1

First Place District winners in both categories are sent to the State Creative Writing Chairman for judging.

GFWC – April 1

The State Creative Writing Chairman will send the first place winners in each category to GFWC.

At the state level, certificates are awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places. First place winners are forwarded to GFWC for further judging.

YOUTH POETRY AND SHORT STORY CONTESTS

Categories:

Category 1: Grades K, 1, and 2

Category 3: Grades 6, 7, and 8

Category 2: Grades 3, 4, and 5

Category 4: Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12

Rules

1. Youth (grades K-12) may enter one poem and/or one short story.
2. Authors must be of amateur status: earning from writings must not exceed \$500 annually.
3. Manuscripts entered may not have been published prior to the competition and must be original work of the author.
4. Entries must be typed, **double-spaced** with minimum margins of 1" on all sides, on 8 ½" x 11" paper. Spelling counts.
5. **Short Stories** limited to 2000 words.
6. **Poems** can be any style with a minimum length of eight lines and maximum length of 50 lines.
7. All entries must be written during the contest calendar year.
8. The Six Traits of Writing will be used in the judging of the Youth Writing Contest.
9. Entries **must** have the following in the **top right hand corner of each page**:
 - Author's name, email address, mailing address, and phone number
 - Name of school and grade
 - Name of local Club, District, State
 - Category (short story or poem)
 - Title of work
 - Grade level category
10. At the state level, certificates are awarded in each of the four categories. First place winners in each category are forwarded to GFWC for further judging. Monetary prizes are awarded in Categories 3 and 4 to first place winners. All entries must include the signed Creative Arts Waiver.

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Deadlines:

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(To be shared with schools)

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Send your entry no later than _____ to:

(Put Club's deadline date and your GFWC NY Club name and address here)

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**GENERAL FEDERATION
of WOMEN'S CLUBS**

CREATIVE ARTS WAIVER

With my signature I declare that:

I have created the submitted work, entitled _____, and I own the full copyright. The work has not been published before.

With my work, including pictures, tables, or additional media, I do not violate or infringe the copyright of other persons or entities.

The work in question is (please check one): Photography Poetry Short Story

I grant the General Federation of Women's Clubs a royalty-free perpetual license to use, reproduce, post, display, create derivative works, sell, license, or sub-license the work in any media now know or later invented without limitation, for commercial or non-commercial purposes.

I agree that I shall not release the work to any other publication in the same or substantially similar form, without prior written and explicit consent from the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

This agreement shall become effective and binding at the date of formal acceptance of the work for publication by the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

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|-------------------|-------|-----|
| Full name (Print) | | |
| Mailing Address | | |
| City | State | Zip |
| Email | | |
| Phone | | |

Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature (if submitter is under 18 years of age)

Date