2016 SCHEDULE OF LITERARY STAGE “EVENTS WITHIN THE EVENT”

Writers Helping Writers: The Art of Mentoring
Sponsored by the SF/Peninsula branch of the California Writers Club (CWC)

Friday, April 1 11:59pm ALL LITERARY ART ENTRIES DUE
including the Notre Dame de Namur Scholarship and Anthology Book Cover contest for artists

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:
Saturday, June 11 1-6pm “Carry the Light” Celebration of Prose and Poetry
Sunday, June 12 1-6pm Annual Writers Mini-Conference
Monday, June 13 2-4pm Kid’s Day Create Your Own Space Alien
Tuesday, June 14 12-8pm Senior Day workshops, Fault Zone readings
Saturday, June 18 2-4pm Author Day: Over 30 local authors of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry will sell and sign books
Monday, June 20 2-7pm Post fair: Prize Ribbons and Rosettes Released

All literary stage events FREE with fair admission!

Library Arts Code: FA  Entry Fees: $10.00 per entry  NO MAXIMUM ENTRY FEE

There are NO late entry options for all literary divisions, the NDNU scholarship, and the Carry the Light book cover art contest (see the Fine Arts Galleria guidebook). All entries are due by 11:59pm on April 1, 2016.
UNLIKE THE OTHER FAIR DEPARTMENTS, THE LITERARY DEPARTMENT DOES NOT ACCEPT MAIL-IN ENTRY FORMS (ONLINE ENTRIES ONLY) AND OUR CONTEST DEADLINE IS APRIL 1, 2016!

ALL entries must be done online at www.sanmateocountyfair.com. Upload your entry when prompted. Do not send PDF files. If you have difficulties registering or submitting online, please email literary@smeventcenter.com BEFORE the entry deadline. Emails received after entry deadline will not be honored. For details and step-by-step help with registration check the right hand box on the page http://sanmateocountyfair.com/contests/departments/literary-arts

**Please see the Fine Arts Galleria https://sanmateocountyfair.com/contests/departments/fine-arts-galleria for information on the following contest. NOTE: This deadline is a month earlier than the Fine Arts deadline

BOOK COVER ART CONTEST “CARRY THE LIGHT”
THE SAN MATEO COUNTY FAIR LITERARY ANTHOLOGY

Note: although the fair awards prizes for this contest, the publisher reserves the right to modify the winning design, or choose a different book cover image other than the fair entries
A SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO THE SAN FRANCISCO/PENINSULA BRANCH OF THE CALIFORNIA WRITERS CLUB (CWC) FOR SPONSORING FREE LITERARY STAGE EVENTS

www.cwc-peninsula.org

Our partnership between the San Mateo County Fair and the CWC began in 2009 when members of the San Francisco/Peninsula branch first volunteered their time and professional expertise to conduct free workshops and readings on our literary stage. This collaboration has grown to almost 150 workshops, panels, critiques, presentations, one-act plays, interviews, winner’s circle contest readings, anthology autograph parties, the “Rejection Generator,” and our annual Author Book Fairs. The CWC motto of “Writers Helping Writers” is a perfect fit. Successful writers and editors teach and encourage contest entrants and audience participants - writers of all levels - and in the process, share a passion for the written word. You don’t need to be a CWC member to enter a contest or join us onstage. All you need is the desire to write!

LITERARY ARTS GENERAL RULES

Deadline for all Literary Entries is at 11:59pm on Friday, April 1, 2016. Late entries are NOT allowed for any literary divisions, NDNU scholarship, or the Fine Arts Galleria book cover art contest

1. Enter online at www.sanmateocountyfair.com, pay $10.00 fee per submission and upload your entry with title when prompted at the end of the online entry process; no submission will be accepted without registration AND payment. If you encounter difficulties with the online entry process, please email literary@smeventcenter.com BEFORE the April 1st entry deadline. Emails received after the April 1 midnight entry deadline will not be honored.

2. NEW 2016 DISQUALIFICATION RULES: Entries over specified word count limits and/or documents without a title, or with your name exposed will be disqualified and you will not receive a refund: no cover pages, synopses, prologues, explanations, illustrations, or photos allowed.

3. RELEASE: Author retains all rights; however, the author agrees that all literary arts entries may be displayed in the fine arts galleria; best of show winners will be highlighted on posters with entrant’s name, title, and brief excerpt; and any/all entries may be used for publicity purposes at the sole discretion of the Fair management.

4. RETURN: In keeping with current writing competition standards, no literary arts entries will be returned; for confidentiality, all printed material will be recycled.

5. DIVISION RULES: Make sure your submission is entered in the correct contest or it will be disqualified as state rules forbid switching entries to different divisions. For example, do not enter a memoir into the essay contest or vice versa.

FINE ARTS GALLERIA-LITERARY ARTS 65
7. **REGISTRATION:** No literary submissions will be accepted without official registration AND payment of $10.00 per entry. NEW: you cannot change your entry’s title once it has been submitted online.

8. **PRIZE RIBBONS:** Per state fair rules, RIBBONS ARE PROHIBITED FROM BEING REMOVED FROM DISPLAYS DURING THE FAIR; they can be picked up on Monday June 20 from 2 to 7 pm (no parking or entry fee required).

9. **AGE:** **MINIMUM AGE is 16** Underage submissions (except scholarship entrants) will be moved to the Youth Dept. Age for senior citizen class (55 and older). Age is determined by having had a birthday on or before January 1.

10. **COST:** $10 per entry. No limit on number of entries, or prizes received.

11. **LOTTERIES:** There is no extra charge for the optional Memoir, Essay, and Short Story lotteries that will be drawn at random; at registration, check the Optional Lottery Sign-up. By choosing this option, you agree to have your story and its critique posted on the Fair website, if you are a winner of this lottery.

12. **ALL LITERARY ENTRIES:** must be contestant’s original work and written in English. Open to themes/genres appropriate for the general population; per state fair rules **no foul language**, gratuitous sex, or violence permitted so edit your entry carefully for our specific requirements before submission because no one wants to be disqualified! Pieces that won other contests, been published online or in print are acceptable but **DO NOT RESUBMIT LITERARY WORK PREVIOUSLY ENTERED INTO THE SAN MATEO COUNTY FAIR WHETHER IT WON A PRIZE OR NOT.**

13. **NEW CHANGE IN OUR PUBLICATION PROCESS FOR 2016:** Our submissions have grown to the point that we can no longer publish every entrant. Following our theme of Writers helping Writers, we want to provide all contest entrants the option of being published online in our new Literary Arts Archive webpage, to be permanently archived per year. Entrants aged 16 to 18 published in our online Literary Arts Archive webpage must provide parental permission.

**NOTE:** Our free literary stage events are produced by professional writers and editors to help writers of all levels improve their skills so everyone will have a greater chance of becoming award-winning writers.

14. **NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR 2016:** In order to help our entrants promote their writing and increase their publicity efforts, the San Mateo County Fair will publish online each entrant’s submission regardless of a win, and will include an optional bio (75 words or less), plus website and/or blog links on our new, permanently archived web publication. **NOTE:** You must upload your bio and web links by the deadline of 11:59 pm on April 1, 2016 in order to be included.

**ATTENTION ALL WRITERS!!!**

Win a literary prize and your story will be published!

“**CARRY THE LIGHT**” – THE SAN MATEO COUNTY FAIR WINNERS CIRCLE LITERARY ANTHOLOGY, published by Sand Hill Review Press (SHRP) [http://sandhillreviewpress.com](http://sandhillreviewpress.com) is a 6” x 9” soft cover trade paperback that you can purchase at the fair as well as on [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). **NEW CHANGE FOR 2016:** If your story wins a prize it will be included in the 2016 anthology; you will authorize your work to be printed by SHRP without compensation, and you will retain all ownership rights. Writers are invited to participate in local promotions and book signings.

**NOTE:** Winners who do not wish to be included in this anthology must click the designated box during online entry. **Winners aged 16 to 18 must provide parental permission.**

*CARRY THE LIGHT* is an annual published anthology of the award-winning fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, essay, and sponsored contest submissions that range from free form poetry, science fiction, short stories, and memoirs, all of which tell a story. Do you have such a story to share? Open to themes/genres appropriate for a family friendly population; **no foul language, gratuitous sex, or violence.** No limits to number of submissions; every submission that wins a first, second, third, or honorable mention award will be published, except digital media submissions, which will be posted on our literary web page.

SHRP operates independently from the fair and reserves the right to make corrections, reformat, and excerpt larger chapter submissions. **NEW CHANGE FOR 2016:** In the spirit of inclusion, our annual published anthology will list all contest entrants’ names and submission titles whether they win a prize or not. Winners who opt out of the anthology will still have their names and titles listed. **NEW CHANGE FOR 2016:** Following our theme of Writers helping Writers, all entrants will have the opportunity to be published online in our new Literary Arts Archive webpage, to be permanently archived per year. Entrants aged 16 to 18 who want to be published online must provide parental permission. **See rule #14 for details.**

You may preorder anthology copies during the online registration at [www.sanmateocountyfair.com](http://www.sanmateocountyfair.com) at the special $10.00 promo price (DEADLINE is May 5) No refunds. You must pick up your preorders at the Expo Hall office store (northwest corner by El Camino entrance) A limited number of anthologies will be for sale during the weekend events at the literary stage and/or office store during the fair for **$12.00.** *CARRY THE LIGHT* will also be available to purchase at [www.amazon.com/CARRY-LIGHT-Stories-Essays-County](http://www.amazon.com) ($12.00 plus tax & shipping).

Our annual Anthology Launch and Book Signing Event will be held on Opening Day Saturday, June 11, 2016. Come meet your fellow writers! Details at [www.sanmateocountyfair.com/contests/departments/literary-arts](http://www.sanmateocountyfair.com/contests/departments/literary-arts). You need not win a prize or buy a book to participate in this, or any of our free literary workshops and events.
DIVISION 350 – PUBLISHER’S CHOICE NOVEL CHAPTER CONTEST  
**Sponsored by Sand Hill Review Press [www.sandhillreviewpress.com](http://www.sandhillreviewpress.com)**

**AWARD OFFERED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Prize</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>Rosette</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Submit chapter one *(limited to 4,000 words maximum and must have a title or it will be subject to disqualification)* of your unpublished novel of any genre except YA young adult and children’s stories. (NO SYNOPSIS OR PROLOGUE). Publisher will choose the winning chapter based on your captivating story line and writing style. No promises of a publishing contract, but the winning novel will be plucked out of the slush pile and given a good reading and written evaluation. NOTE: The anthology publisher may excerpt submissions longer than 3,000 words if page space is limited.

**CLASS:**

1.  Publisher’s Choice Novel Chapter

**MULTIPLE NOVEL CONTEST ENTRY OPTION:** Work submitted to other novel chapter contests may also be submitted to this Division 350 Publisher’s Choice novel chapter contest, but must keep with specific contest word limits (separate entry fee applies)

DIVISION 351 – GENRE NOVELIST FIRST CHAPTER CONTEST  
**Sponsored by Beth Barany [www.BethBarany.com](http://www.BethBarany.com)**

Creativity Coach for Writers, Beth Barany, is sponsoring the Genre Novelist First Chapter Contest.

1st Place Winner: Rosette & Author Coaching Package (3 sessions) valued at $450 ([www.bethbarany.com/services.html](http://www.bethbarany.com/services.html))
2nd Place Winner: Rosette & One Author Coaching session (valued at $150)
3rd Place Winner: Rosette & A signed copy of The Writer's Adventure Guide by Beth Barany ([www.writersadventureguide.com](http://www.writersadventureguide.com))

Submit chapter one *(limited to 3,000 words maximum and must have a title or it’ll be subject to disqualification)* of your unpublished novel of any one of these genres: Mystery, Suspense, Thriller, Fantasy, Science Fiction, Speculative Fiction. No: Romance, Horror, Erotica. (NO SYNOPSIS OR PROLOGUE). You must include a one-paragraph Elevator Pitch at the beginning of your document, clearly marked as Elevator Pitch. Then proceed with your novel chapter. (Instructions here: [www.writersfunzone.com/blog/2014/09/08/start-novel-preparation-elevator-pitch](http://www.writersfunzone.com/blog/2014/09/08/start-novel-preparation-elevator-pitch)) Open to unpublished or self-published authors only.

**MULTIPLE NOVEL CONTEST ENTRY OPTION:** Work may be also submitted to the Division 350 Publisher’s Choice novel chapter contest, but must keep with this contest’s 3,000 word limit (separate entry fee applies)

**CLASS:**

1.  Genre Novelist First Chapter

DIVISION 352 – BEST BLOG CONTEST

**AWARD OFFERED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Prize</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>Rosette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>Rosette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>Rosette</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Eligibility:** Submit a Word document of your blog posting *(there is a minimum requirement of 500 words; limited to 1000 words maximum and it must have a title or it’ll be subject to disqualification)*. Include your web address.

**RULES:**

1.  Blog can be based on any subject (food, art, technology, politics, health, humor, parenting, your personal self-promotion page, etc.) but must be published on the Internet in an accessible manner for the general public to read, with attention on readability, entertainment, and information provided within the writing.
2.  A url link must be provided under the title or heading; do not include your name in the document.
3.  Blog should be established, with more than three (3) different write ups SHOULD BE write ups published within a two (2) month period
4.  Blog should be written within a First Person Point of View. Open to themes/genres appropriate for the general population; per state fair rules no foul language, gratuitous sex, or violence permitted.
5.  Blog will be judged on overall content, writing style, flow, and overall relativity to the subject matter presented within the writing.

**CLASS:**

1.  Online Digital Media; Blog
DIVISION 353 – DIGITAL MEDIA: SPOKEN WORD CONTEST LYRIC SONGWRITING
Sponsored by Daniel Swetlik & Maurine Killough

AWARD OFFERED
1st Place $100 Rosette
2nd Place $50 Rosette
3rd Place $25 Rosette

Eligibility: Submit a lyric sheet and MP3 or WMA recording (max 5 minutes and must have a title or it will be subject to disqualification) Must be original lyrics and music; entrant does not have to personally sing or play his/her music on the submitted MP3 or WMA recording.

RULES:
1. Submit a lyric sheet and song recordings in MP3 format or WMA recording
2. Each entry must be the composer's own, original lyrics and music.
3. The composer may personally record his/her own work or use performers (including professional services). Songs will be judged on composition; the quality of performance, vocals, and production is not a consideration.
4. Entrants must agree the work submitted is of his/her own creation, fits all of the above guidelines, and its content is not graphic (violent, profanity, or sexually explicit per San Mateo County Fair rules.)
5. Special sound effects must be original and/or licensed from an online provider (such as Soundsnap, Sounddogs, partnersinrhyme, etc.), or available in the public domain.
6. Enter online at www.sanmateocountyfair.com and upload your lyric sheet and MP3 or WMA recording when prompted.
7. Songwriting entries will be posted at http://sanmateocountyfair.com/contests/departments/literary-arts

CLASS:
1. Lyric Songwriting: Americana/Folk/Country
2. Lyric Songwriting: Rock/Pop
3. Lyric Songwriting: Singer/Songwriter/Indie

DIVISION 354 - DIGITAL MEDIA: RECORDED SPOKEN WORD CONTEST
PODCASTS AND AUDIOBOOKS

AWARD OFFERED
1st Place $100 Rosette

Eligibility: Submit a MP3 recording (20 minutes max and must have a title or it will be subject to disqualification). Definition of Podcast: an audio broadcast recorded as an MP3 file that can be played on a portable music player, such as an iPod, smart phone, or on a computer that can include sound effects and other enhancements. A podcast can deliver a discussion, a comedy routine, an interview, or a variety of other types of content, including a story.

NEW CLASS: Definition of Audiobook: a MP3 voice recording of a fiction/nonfiction book first chapter, short story, or memoir that may be abridged; a submission would be a 10 to 20 minute (max) reading of the beginning pages of text.

RULES:
1. Submit time-limited audio recordings as a class 1 podcast or class 2 audiobook in MP3 format, minimum length 10 minutes, maximum 20 minutes, no exceptions (approx. 1,000-2,500 words) or it is subject to disqualification.
2. A 10-20 minute timed podcast can include any music played before and after the verbal presentation as well as sound effects used; a 10-20 minute timed audiobook need not have sound effects.
3. Use your time wisely: Don’t abruptly stop midway just to use up the maximum 20 minutes. Hint: as with Open Mic presentations, plan your excerpted reading so the story flows, the audience is engaged, and the ending makes sense.
4. The author may record his/her own work or use performers (including professional podcast/audiobook services), but must agree the work submitted is of his/her own creation, fits all of the above guidelines, and its content is not graphic or sexually explicit per San Mateo County Fair rules. Music and sound effects must be original and/or licensed from an online provider (such as Soundsnap, Sounddogs, partnersinrhyme, etc.), or available in the public domain.
5. Enter online at www.sanmateocountyfair.com and upload your MP3 recording when prompted.
6. Podcast and Audiobook entries will be posted at http://sanmateocountyfair.com/contests/departments/literary-arts

CLASS:
1. Online Digital Media: Podcast
2. Online Digital Media: Audiobook
DIVISION 355 – MEMOIR

AWARD OFFERED
1st Place $100 Rosette
2nd Place $50 Rosette
3rd Place $25 Rosette

SPECIAL NOTE: Definition of a memoir from about.com: “A first person form of creative nonfiction recounting the writer’s memory or experience(s) from his or her life,” (Personal Memoir) or experiences and impressions of common topics (Lifestyle Memoir) that show how he or she was affected, and comes to an understanding or lesson learned.

RULES:
1. Limited to 1500 words maximum and must have a title or it will be subject to disqualification.
2. This first person narrative needs a cohesive beginning, middle and ending; and can include dialogue but it should not read like a standard fiction piece or a persuasive point of view essay because it will be disqualified as state rules forbid switching entries to different divisions.
3. Excerpt from a longer piece is acceptable if the story stands on its own; no prologue, synopsis, or epilogue allowed.
4. Memoir must NOT have been entered in a previous San Mateo County Fair Competition, whether it won or not.
5. The entry must be less than 1,500 words or less and must have a title.
6. Memoirs must be entered in one of the two following classes—Personal Memoir or Lifestyle Memoir, and may address the optional theme: Carry the Light. Choose the class that best fits your story, but a judge may switch classes at his/her discretion.
   • Personal Memoir can address the writer’s childhood memories, favorite pets, parenting, hobbies, meeting interesting or unusual people, spiritual journeys, health issues, aging, death and dying, etc.
   • Lifestyle Memoir can address general topics the writer experiences or observes from his/her point of view such as the world at large, business/career, politics, the Internet, travel, food, sports, humor, literature, entertainment, current events etc.
   • You may also incorporate the optional theme “CARRY THE LIGHT: THE QUALITY OF ONE’S DREAM WILL DETERMINE ITS POWER” into either Personal or Lifestyle Memoirs. Carry the Light pertains to the writer or someone the writer meets who acts as a beacon of light to others not by convincing them of their need to follow, but rather, by showing people the way to reach their own goals and aspirations, such as stepping up in the community, assisting others, or daring to dream about creating something new.
7. Subject matter must be appropriate for “all ages” reading. No excessive violence, profanity, sexual nature, etc.
8. For the optional lottery critique opportunity you must designate your participation in the online registration of this memoir contest with your agreement to have your edited story posted on the literary web page if selected. Registration numbers will act as lottery “tickets.” No added fee required. Opting out will not affect judging decisions.

CLASS:
1. Personal Memoir
2. Lifestyle Memoir

ADDED BONUS: ENTER OUR FREE LOTTERY TO WIN A PROFESSIONAL CRITIQUE OF YOUR MEMOIR SUBMISSION!
Sponsored by Darlene Frank http://www.darlenefrankwriting.com

Enter our optional free lottery offered by editor and writing/creativity coach Darlene Frank, who will provide professional editorial feedback on one (1) entry in the Personal Memoir class and one (1) entry in the Lifestyle Memoir class. Both entries will be drawn at random. A member of the San Francisco/Peninsula branch of the California Writers Club, Darlene Frank is carrying on the club’s 100-year tradition of “Writers Helping Writers.” In the spirit of creative collaboration, we will post the feedback for both entries at http://sanmateocountyfair.com/contests/departments/literary-arts for the benefit of other writers. The literary stage has offered editing workshops to enthusiastic audiences since 2009; this new lottery extends the learning opportunity to all writers who access our literary page. To participate, check the Optional Lottery Sign-up during registration for the Div 326 Memoir Contest. By choosing this option, you agree to have your story and its critique posted on the Fair website, if you are a winner of this lottery. No additional charge to enter. EXTRA: both winners will also be offered a no-charge phone consultation with Darlene about their writing.
DIVISION 356 - "HEROES ARISE" HEROIC DEED NOVEL CHAPTER, ANY GENRE
Sponsored by Laurel Anne Hill, author of Heroes Arise (KOMENAR PUBLISHING)  www.laurelannehill.com

AWARD OFFERED
1st Place  $100  Rosette
2nd Place  $50  Rosette
3rd Place  $25  Rosette

ELIGIBILITY:
Submit chapter one (limited to 4,000 words maximum and must have a title or it will be subject to disqualification) of your unpublished novel of any genre. (NO SYNOPIS OR PROLOGUE). Somewhere in your novel, your main character must perform a heroic deed which is essential to the main plot. Include a brief note at the end of your first-chapter submission indicating 1) what that heroic deed is/will be, and, 2) how performing the deed will affect the main character. NOTE: anthology publisher may excerpt submissions longer than 3,000 words if page space is limited.

CLASS: 1. “Hero’s Arise” Heroic Deed Novel Chapter

NEW THIS YEAR MULTIPLE NOVEL CONTEST ENTRY OPTION: Work may be also submitted to the Division 350 Publisher’s Choice novel chapter contest, but must keep with this contest’s 4000 word limit (separate entry fee applies)

DIVISION 357– SAN FRANCISCO/PENINSULA WRITERS CLUB:
WRITER OF THE YEAR SHORT STORY CONTEST
Sponsored by the San Francisco/Peninsula branch of the California Writers Club (CWC)  www.cwc-peninsula.org

AWARD OFFERED
1st Place  Rosette & One (1) year free membership and monthly meetings ($145 value) in the San Francisco/Peninsula Chapter of the California Writers Club (CWC) to run from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all short stories written for adults; limit 2,000 words maximum and must have a title or it will be subject to disqualification; no essays or poetry.

MULTIPLE CONTEST ENTRY: Work may be also submitted to the Division 363 Short Story contest if applicable (separate entry fee applies)

CLASS: 1. San Francisco/Peninsula Writers Club: Writer of the Year

DIVISION 358 – THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE: SHORT STORY, ESSAY, OR MONOLOGUE
Sponsored by 22-Day Writing Coach Teresa LeYung-Ryan www.writingcoachTeresa.com;
Coach Teresa’s blog: http://lovemadeofheart.com/blog/
Author of Love Made of Heart: a Daughter, a Mother, a Journey Through Mental Illness (novel);
Build Your Writer’s Platform & Fanbase in 22 Days (workbook); and
Talking to My Dead Mom Monologues

AWARD OFFERED
1st Place  $100  Rosette
2nd Place  $50  Rosette
3rd Place  $25  Rosette

This contest is to honor immigrants who struggle over language barriers, poverty, stigmas, and injustice. Your entry could be a firsthand account or a retelling of someone else’s experience. Show how your protagonist goes about pursuing what she/he wants while confronting antagonists (persons or circumstances); use authentic details to show protagonist’s recollection or attitude of “the old country.” Foreshadow the core theme in the first paragraph.

ELIGIBILITY: Limit 1,500 word maximum unpublished short story, essay, or monologue (no synopsis or prologue).

CLASS: 1. Immigrant Experience
DIVISION 359 – CHILDREN’S NOVEL CHAPTER OR STORY CONTEST
Sponsored by Parenting on the Peninsula  www.ponthep.com

AWARD OFFERED
1st Place $100 Rosette
2nd Place $50 Rosette
3rd Place $25 Rosette

The first place prizewinner will be published on the Parenting on the Peninsula online site (which receives over 100,000 hits per month), PLUS the piece will be reviewed in the print publication (circulation over 60,000).

THEME: The first chapter of a novel, or a story written specifically for children or teens BY AN ADULT.

ELIGIBILITY: Submit a short story or first chapter of your children’s novel. Limit 2000 words maximum and must have a title or it will be subject to disqualification. All themes appropriate for children are welcome. State your age group population. No illustrations, cartoons, or photos allowed; a masterful writing style will determine the winner. Not eligible for the Div 350 Publisher’s Choice Novel Chapter contest.

CLASS:
1. Children’s Novel Chapter or Story Contest by an adult

DIVISION 360 - POETRY

AWARD OFFERED
1st Place $100 Rosette
2nd Place $50 Rosette
3rd Place $25 Rosette

RULES:
1. Limit length to 40 lines and must have a title or it will be subject to disqualification may be double or single-spaced. Any style form or subject accepted. Do not choose a form that exceeds 40 lines. Please choose a subject appropriate for “all ages” reading: no excessive violence, profanity, sexual nature, etc.
2. Poem must NOT have been entered in a previous San Mateo County Fair Competition, whether it won or not.
3. Poem must have a title.
4. Exhibitors may enter a poem in the “free form” (meaning it follows no established poem format) or the “structured” (meaning it follows an established poem format) class. Some examples of “structured” form poems include the sonnet, villanelle, sestina, haiku, tanka, limerick, rondel, rondeau, pantoum, etc.
   - You may also incorporate the optional theme “CARRY THE LIGHT: THE QUALITY OF ONE’S DREAM WILL DETERMINE ITS POWER” into either free form or structured poems. Carry the Light pertains to the writer or someone the writer meets who acts as a beacon of light to others not by convincing them of their need to follow, but rather, by showing people the way to reach their own goals and aspirations, such as stepping up in the community, assisting others, or daring to dream about creating something new.
5. Exhibitors may not enter the same poem in more than one category or class.
6. Judges reserve the right to switch poems to more appropriate classes

CLASS:
1. Free form poem - Exhibitor 54 years old or younger
2. Senior free form poem - Exhibitor 55 years or older
3. Structured poem - Exhibitor 54 years old or younger
4. Senior structured poem - Exhibitor 55 years or older
AWARD OFFERED
1st Place $100 Rosette
2nd Place $50 Rosette
3rd Place $25 Rosette

A Persuasive Essay develops an argument or opinion around a theme, incorporates a structured, persuasive point of view, and answers the questions what, how, and why? A clear sense of argument is essential. http://writingcenter.fas.harvard.edu/pages/essay-structure
A Literary Essay informs the reader and answers the questions what, how, and why while sometimes delivering a message but it’s not designed to persuade; while it may involve the writer’s individual reflection or experience (ex: studying classic architecture) the focal point is always the subject of the essay (ex: architecture) not the writer www.netplaces.com/writing-nonfiction/the-literary-essay/what-is-a-literary-essay.htm

RULES:
1. Essays should reflect the writer’s expertise and knowledge of the essay form. No personal essays or memoirs in this category.
2. Limit 1,000 words maximum and must have a title or it will be subject to disqualification.
3. Essays may be written in first, second, or third person; some dialogue may be included if applicable, but no fiction is allowed in this category and should not read like a standard fiction piece or a memoir that focuses on the writer’s personal life because it will be disqualified as state rules forbid switching entries to different divisions.
4. You may incorporate the optional theme “CARRY THE LIGHT” into either Persuasive Essay or Literary Essay. Carry the Light pertains to an individual or organization that acts as a beacon of light to others not by convincing people of their need to follow, but rather, by showing them the way to reach their own goals and aspirations, such as stepping up in the community, assisting others, or daring to dream about creating something new.
5. Essay must NOT have been entered in a previous San Mateo County Fair Competition, whether it won or not.
6. Subject matter must be appropriate for “all ages” reading. No excessive violence, profanity, sexual nature, etc.
7. Essays must be entered in one (1) of the two (2) following classes—Persuasive Essay or Literary Essay, and may address the optional theme: Carry the Light. Choose the class that best fits your subject, but a judge may switch classes at his/her discretion.
8. For the optional lottery critique opportunity you must designate your participation in the online registration of this essay contest with your agreement to have your edited story posted on the literary web page if selected. Registration numbers will act as lottery “tickets.” No added fee required. Opting out will not affect judging decisions.

CLASS:
1. Persuasive Essay
2. Literary Essay

ADDED BONUS: ENTER OUR FREE LOTTERY TO WIN A PROFESSIONAL CRITIQUE OF YOUR ESSAY!
Sponsored by Audrey Kalman http://www.audreykalman.com
Enter our optional free lottery offered by writing and editing consultant and former Fault Zone anthology editor Audrey Kalman, who will provide professional editorial feedback on one (1) submission in the Essay division that will be drawn at random. A member of the San Francisco/Peninsula branch of the California Writers Club, Audrey Kalman is carrying on the club’s 100-year tradition of “Writers Helping Writers.” In the spirit of creative collaboration we will post the feedback for the selected entry at http://sanmateocountyfair.com/contests/departments/literary-arts for the benefit of other writers. The literary stage has offered editing workshops to enthusiastic audiences since 2009; this new lottery extends the learning opportunity to all writers who access our literary page. To participate, check the Optional Lottery Sign-up during registration for the essay contest. By choosing this option, you agree to have your essay and its critique posted on the Fair website, if you are a winner of this lottery. No additional charge to enter. EXTRA: winner will also be offered a no-charge phone consultation with Audrey about his/her writing.
DIVISION 362 - SHORT STORY

AWARD OFFERED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>Rosette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Place</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>Rosette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>Rosette</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RULES:

1. Stories should reflect the writer's expertise and knowledge of the fiction genre. No narrative essays or memoirs in this category.

2. Limit 2,000 words maximum and must have a title or it will be subject to disqualification.

3. Stories must be entered in one of the following classes—General Fiction, Science Fiction/Fantasy, Mystery/Thriller, Western (up to modern day) and/or Historical, and Humorous. Choose the class that best fits the story, but judges may switch classes at his/her discretion. May be written in first person but must read as fiction with plot and character development or it will be disqualified, as state rules forbid moving entries to the memoir contest.

4. You can incorporate the optional theme “CARRY THE LIGHT: THE QUALITY OF ONE’S DREAM WILL DETERMINE ITS POWER” into any of the short story classes. Carry the Light pertains to the writer or someone the writer meets who acts as a beacon of light to others not by convincing them of their need to follow, but rather, by showing people the way to reach their own goals and aspirations, such as stepping up in the community, assisting others, or daring to dream about creating something new.

5. Subject matter must be appropriate for “all ages” reading. No excessive violence, profanity, sexual nature, etc.

6. For the optional lottery critique opportunity you must designate your participation in the online registration of this short story contest with your agreement to have your edited story posted on the literary web page if selected. Registration numbers will act as lottery “tickets.” No added fee required. Opting out will not affect judging decisions.

MULTIPLE CONTEST SUBMISSIONS: Exhibitors may not enter the same story in more than one category or class, except if you are also entering said short story in the Division 330 California Writers Club Writer of the Year Contest.

NOTE: additional entry fees apply.

CLASS:

1. General Fiction—exhibitor 54 years old or younger
2. Senior General Fiction—exhibitor 55 years or older
3. Science Fiction/Fantasy—exhibitor 54 years old or younger
4. Senior Science Fiction/Fantasy—exhibitor 55 years or older
5. Mystery/Thriller—exhibitor 54 years old or younger
6. Senior Mystery/Thriller—exhibitor 55 years or older
7. CHANGE IN CLASS: Western (up to modern day) and/or Historical—exhibitor 54 years old or younger
8. CHANGE IN CLASS: Senior Western (up to modern day) and/or Historical—exhibitor 55 years or older
9. NEW CATEGORY: Humorous—exhibitor 54 years old or younger
10. NEW CATEGORY: Senior Humorous—exhibitor 55 years or older

ADDED BONUS: ENTER OUR FREE LOTTERY TO WIN A PROFESSIONAL CRITIQUE OF YOUR SHORT STORY!

Sponsored by Lisa Meltzer Penn http://www.lisameltzerpenn.com

Enter our optional free lottery offered by former New York editor, former Fault Zone editor, and current Bay Area writing coach Lisa Meltzer Penn M.A., who will provide professional editorial feedback on two (2) submissions in the Short Story division that will be drawn at random. A member of the San Francisco/Peninsula branch of the California Writers Club, Lisa Meltzer Penn is carrying on the club’s 100-year tradition of “Writers Helping Writers.” In the spirit of creative collaboration we will post the feedback for both entries at http://sanmateocountyfair.com/contests/departments/literary-arts for the benefit of other writers. The literary stage has offered editing workshops to enthusiastic audiences since 2009; this new lottery extends the learning opportunity to all writers who access our literary page. To participate, check the Optional Lottery Sign-up during registration for the short story division contest. By choosing this option, you agree to have your story and its critique posted on the Fair website, if you are a winner of this lottery. No additional charge to enter. EXTRA: both winners will also be offered a no-charge phone consultation with Lisa about their writing.
SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND SENIORS, AS WELL AS FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS OF ANY AGE CARRYING 12 UNITS OR MORE
An annual $20,000 Creative Writing Scholarship -- $5,000 per year guaranteed for up to four years of undergraduate study, contingent upon meeting university requirements.

1. ELIGIBILITY: This scholarship is open to high school juniors and seniors and/or students of any age who will transfer to NDNU within the next two years as a full-time student. No geographical restrictions; US citizenship not required. Current NDNU students are not eligible for the Scholarship. Only one (1) entry per student. Exhibitor must provide proof of a 3.00 GPA or above, and enroll in NDNU within 1 year of award. If the winning entrant maintains the university’s academic standing, he/she will receive an additional $5000 for up to four (4) consecutive school years, for a total of $20,000 in undergraduate scholarship funding.

2. OPTIONAL THEME: “Carry the Light – The Quality of One’s Dream Will Determine Its Power.” Carry the Light pertains to an individual or organization that acts as a beacon of light to others not by convincing people of their need to follow, but rather, by showing them the way to reach their own goals and aspirations, such as stepping up in the community, assisting others, or daring to dream about creating something new.

3. REQUIREMENTS: Poetry entrants must submit 3 to 5 poems single-spaced 40 lines or less. Essays must not exceed 1,000 words. Short stories must not exceed 2,000 words and can be in any genre. Subject matter must be appropriate for “all ages” reading. No excessive violence, profanity, sexual nature, etc. Contest is limited to one (1) submission per entrant. All entrants must also include a first-person piece: “Why I Want To Attend NDNU” in 500 words or less.

4. JUDGING: Notre Dame de Namur University will make the final determination. There will be no charge for scholarship entries and no cash prize from the fair will be awarded. Entry must have correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation, and show promise in the craft of writing.

CLASS:
1. NDNU Creative Writing Scholarship