



THE LITERARY STAGE™

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2018 SCHEDULE OF LITERARY STAGE “EVENTS WITHIN THE EVENT”

Writers Helping Writers: The Art of Mentoring

Sponsored by the San Francisco Peninsula branch of the California Writers Club (CWC)

Monday, April 2	11:59pm	ALL LITERARY ARTS ENTRIES DUE including the Notre Dame de Namur Scholarship and Anthology Book Cover contest for artists
HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:		
Saturday, June 9	1-6pm	“Carry the Light” Celebration of Prose and Poetry
Sunday, June 10	1-6pm	Annual Writers Mini-Conference
Monday, June 11	2-4pm	Kid’s Day Stage Events and Create Your Own Space Alien
Tuesday, June 12	12-8pm	Senior Day workshops
Wednesday, June 13	7-9pm	Open Mic readings sponsored by the San Francisco Peninsula Writers (CWC)
Thursday, June 14	7-9pm	Readings from the <i>Fault Zone</i> anthology series
Saturday, June 16	1-6pm	Poetry Fest and Author Day: Poetry workshop, readings, and local authors of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry will sell and sign books
Monday, June 18	2-7pm	Post fair: Prize Ribbons and Rosettes Released

OUR PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA WRITERS AND THE SAN MATEO COUNTY FAIR

The San Francisco Peninsula Writers is the only California Writers Club branch in the state utilizing a weeklong, 18,000 sq. ft. Fine Arts Galleria with a stage and seating for 125. Now entering our 10th year, we’ve conducted over 150 free “events within the event” on our Literary Stage: workshops, panels, author presentations, one-act plays, and interviews, annual author day book sales, poetry readings, musical groups, and individual song and dance performances.

Members volunteer by participating onstage, promoting events, assisting during the fair, setting up displays, and editing *Carry the Light*, our annual anthology of winning fair submissions. SF Peninsula Writers sponsor two contests. Due to everyone’s efforts, contest entries have more than doubled.

We share the Literary Stage with other CWC branches and local writing organizations, which has built our reputation as event promoters with our “mini conferences.” Our theme is the CWC motto “Writers Helping Writers,” with an emphasis on mentoring. It is a perfect fit with members who volunteer their talents to encourage aspiring writers and in the process, share their passion for the written word.

For information on all of our free events and so much more please visit

<http://sanmateocountyfair.com/literary-arts.com>

Section I

CONTEST RULES

All [state rules](#) and [local rules](#) apply.

1. All amateur and professional work will be accepted regardless of residence. Since the fair has no geographical limits, we can accept entries from around the world but the fair will refuse an entry if it is not in English.
2. American system of judging will be used unless otherwise noted.
3. **COST: NEW THIS YEAR: \$5.00 PER ENTRY FOR SPECIAL YOUNG ADULT CLASS AGES 16-25 YEARS OLD in the Essay, Memoir, Short Story, and Poetry divisions.** Young Adult prizes for these specific classes will be \$50 for 1st; \$35 for 2nd; and \$25 for 3rd.
\$10 PER ENTRY for Adults (26-54) and Senior Adults (age 55 years and up) eligible to win 1st prize \$100; \$50 for 2nd; and \$25 for 3rd prize. NOTE: entrants 16 or older are eligible to compete in any division even if there is no specific Young Adult class and will pay the standard \$10.00 entry fee per submission. Contestants aged 16-25 may choose to waive the YA reduced entry price and instead pay the standard entry fee. There is no limit on the number of entries or prizes received per person; however, there can be no more than two awards paid in each class per person.
4. **OUR EARLIER DEADLINE:** Be aware that unlike other Fair departments, the Literary Arts Department does not accept mail-in entry forms and our contest deadline is 11:59pm, April 2, a month earlier than other Fair departments.
5. **LITERARY ENTRIES** must be contestant's original work, written in English and open to themes and genres appropriate for the general population. Per state Fair rules, no foul language, gratuitous sex, or violence.
6. **WE DO NOT OFFER CONTESTS FOR CHILDREN. MINIMUM CONTESTANT AGE is 16:** No underage submissions (except scholarship entrants). **NOTE: Entrants under 16 will be disqualified (no refunds) and also ineligible to enter the Youth Dept literary contests.** Age is determined by having had a birthday on or before January 1.
7. **HOW TO ENTER:** Enter online at www.sanmateocountyfair.com, pay the entry fee, and upload your entry with title when prompted; no submission will be accepted without registration AND payment. If you have difficulties, email literary@smceec.co BEFORE the April 2nd deadline; emails received after the deadline cannot be honored. Upload each entry separately after you complete the online registration. NOTE: Be patient, it takes time to upload a document so don't assume it's done until you see the final finish notice for each submission. You can register your entry and then upload the document later as long as the title remains the same and all uploads are completed by 11:59 pm on April 2nd. Note: You cannot change your entry's title once it has been submitted online.
8. **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, don't enter a memoir into the essay contest.
9. **FORMAT RULES:** Entries must be written in Times New Roman font, 12-points, double-spaced, with one-inch margins and approximately 300-325 words per page formatting. Entries must have correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation. **NEW: INCLUDE WORD COUNT BELOW TITLE.**
10. **DISQUALIFICATION RULES:** Submissions will be disqualified for underage contestants and entries over specified word counts, with no refunds given; five score points will be deducted for each of the following: use of profanity; documents without a title; not including word count; documents with names exposed or the inclusion of cover pages or explanations, synopses, prologues, illustrations (except for the Stories for Children contest), or photos. Be aware it's often a close race so any points deducted for entry errors could mean the difference between winning or not. Pieces that won other literary contests, have been published online or in print are acceptable, but **DO NOT RESUBMIT WORK PREVIOUSLY ENTERED INTO THE SAN MATEO COUNTY FAIR WHETHER IT WON A PRIZE OR NOT.** You can update a submission after it's registered as long as the title is the same. The office will gladly help resolve problems but can't always solve last minute errors before the deadline.
11. **RELEASE:** Author retains all rights to their work; however, the author agrees that all Literary Arts entries may be displayed in the Fine Arts gallery; 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.
12. **MATERIAL:** Submissions are printed and displayed in the Literary Department: all printed material will be recycled.
13. **PRIZE RIBBONS:** Per State Fair rules, RIBBONS ARE PROHIBITED FROM BEING REMOVED FROM DISPLAYS DURING THE FAIR; **ribbons can be picked up on Monday, June 19 from 2 to 7 pm** (no parking or entry fee required)
14. The Fair reserves the right to remove any exhibit that is not in the best interest of the Fair or entered in violation of its rules and regulations.
15. No advertising material will be allowed in the Literary Arts Department without approval of its Director.

Go to <https://www.sanmateocountyfair.com/literary-arts> to download the online Literary Arts Guidebook for the complete list of contest rules and events information.



Section 2

JUDGING CRITERIA



IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THE SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA WRITERS
BRANCH OF THE CALIFORNIA WRITERS CLUB (CWC)

www.cwc-peninsula.org



THE SANCTIONING PROGRAM was developed for the 2017 Fair as an official CWC “sanctioned” show. The purpose of sanctioning the contests and the Literary Stage events through an organization like the California Writers Club is to create or expand community partnerships. Sanctioning raises awareness of both organizations and increases the number of participants and entries. It calls attention to the literary contests held each year; sets a standard for more comprehensive contest guidelines by which entries are judged; and regulates the continuity of qualified judges, among other benefits. The rules for the division contests are determined by the CWC, as the sanctioning body of the competition.

CONTEST RULES AND JUDGING CRITERIA The Fair continues to oversee the manner in which literary contests are judged fairly; all contests are judged blind, with no names attached to the submissions. The CWC has developed specific templates for judges to follow and uphold the highest standards of impartiality and confidentiality. These templates can be used by other county fairs to partner with local CWC branches.

SPONSORS AND JUDGING Seven private sponsors judge their contests and provide their own awards, while the fair sets division contests and prize monies. The CWC’s Fair Committee oversees the judging process of these contests; judges will either not submit to fair contests or will not evaluate a division or class in which they or their family members enter; these judges may evaluate a different division or class. The literary director reserves the right to oversee the judging process.

DIVISION CONTESTS JUDGED BY THE CWC

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1) Essay | 5) Poetry |
| 2) Memoir | 6) CWC Writer of the Year |
| 3) Best Blog | 7) Short Story |
| 4) Recorded Podcast and Audiobook | 8) Recorded Lyric Songwriting |

JUDGING TEMPLATES Four templates, each designed to meet the criteria of specific contests, are used. Refer to the online guidebook for complete rules and information.

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| 1) Poetry | 3) Recorded Podcast and Audiobook |
| 2) Story | 4) Recorded Lyric Songwriting |

Section 3

AWARDS



BEST OF SHOW AWARDS

Sponsored by the San Mateo County Arts Commission

Winners will receive a gift certificate from our friends at University Art in addition to their award money



BEST OF SHOW: ESSAY

Award Offered: Rosette, \$150, & \$150 gift certificate

BEST OF SHOW: MEMOIR

Award Offered: Rosette, \$150, & \$150 gift certificate

BEST OF SHOW: POETRY

Award Offered: Rosette, \$150, & \$150 gift certificate

BEST OF SHOW: SHORT STORY

Award Offered: Rosette, \$150, & \$150 gift certificate

Judges may refrain from awarding a Best of Show Award in areas where there are not enough entries to warrant a winner

LITERARY EXHIBITOR OF THE YEAR

Award Offered: Plaque & \$150 to the winning writer.

One award is given per year to the top overall exhibitor in the Literary Arts department based upon cumulative awards won. Winners of this award are not eligible for the next two years. Judges reserve the right to not grant the award in any given year. Honorable Mention Awards are not given the same consideration as a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place in the ribbon counts and will be used only at the judges’ discretion as numerical tiebreakers for this award.



Section 4

CARRY THE LIGHT ANTHOLOGY

CARRY THE LIGHT™ – THE SAN MATEO COUNTY FAIR WINNERS CIRCLE LITERARY ANTHOLOGY is a 6” x 9” soft cover trade paperback that traditionally can be purchased at the fair as well as on www.amazon.com. The Anthology has been a fantastic way to honor our writers and we have enjoyed many years of success with our Anthology.

For 2018, Fair Management and the Literary Department have decided that we will NOT be publishing an Anthology this year. This decision is due to our Fair Management team experiencing a major transition and our Literary Department team also experiencing a major transition. Our fearless Literary Department Head, Bardi Rosman Koodrin, was recently diagnosed with Jaw Cancer and she is currently in treatment. She is on the mend but in deference to her wishes, the Fair Management reevaluated the publishing of the Anthology. We, of course, want to honor our winners and writers, but we also do not want to publish an Anthology that would not live up to the professional, and respected standard of our previous Anthology publications.

All of our writers will have their work available on our Fair website, in our Author Archive, and we will do a special tribute to our winners on our website and in our Fair Newsletter.

We appreciate your understanding as we forego the Anthology in 2018. We look forward to reading your entries for 2018!

NOTE: Winners who don't want to be published on our website must click "NO" in the designated box during online entry. Winners aged 16 to 18 must provide parental permission.

Section 5

CREATIVE NONFICTION CONTESTS

DIVISION 325 – ESSAY

AWARDS OFFERED

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

ELIGIBILITY: Word count 400 words min to 1,000 words max.

SPECIAL NOTE: Essays should reflect the writer's expertise and knowledge of the essay form. No memoirs in this category. Choose the class that best fits your subject but a judge may switch classes at his/her discretion. Either class may address the optional theme of Carry the Light. Themes for both classes can revolve around travel, culture and arts, diversity, coming of age, hobbies, personal interests, etc. Show both sides of a political theme without ranting.

Persuasive Essay develops an argument or opinion around a theme or specific idea and incorporates a structured, persuasive point of view. It uses facts and concrete information (not personal opinion) to support the idea and answer questions what, how, and why. A clear argument is essential. By the end of the essay, the reader should know what the author thinks about the topic and why. Examples of persuasive essays can be found on the op-ed page of many newspapers.

Personal 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 or exploring sustainability issues) the focal point is always the subject of the essay (ex: architecture) not the writer.

RULES:

1. 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. Work 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.
2. You may incorporate the optional theme "CARRY THE LIGHT" into either Persuasive Essay or Personal Essay.
3. For the optional lottery critique opportunity, you must designate your participation during the online registration; registration numbers will act as lottery "tickets." No added fee required. Opting out will not affect judging decisions.

CLASS:

1. Persuasive Essay Young Adult exhibitor age 16 to 25 years
2. Persuasive Essay Adult exhibitor age 26 to 54 years
3. Persuasive Essay Senior exhibitor age 55 years and older
4. Literary Essay Young Adult exhibitor age 16 to 25 years
5. Literary Essay Adult exhibitor age 26 to 54 years
6. Literary Essay Senior exhibitor age 55 years and older.

DIVISION 326 – MEMOIR CONTEST

AWARDS OFFERED

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

ELIGIBILITY: Word count 750 words min to 1,500 words max.

SPECIAL NOTE: Definition of a memoir from about.com: “A first person form of [creative nonfiction](http://about.com) 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. 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.
2. Excerpt from a longer piece is acceptable if the story stands on its own; no prologue, synopsis, or epilogue allowed.
3. Memoirs must be entered in one of the two following classes—Personal Memoir or Lifestyle Memoir, and may address the optional theme of 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, technology, sustainability, the Internet, travel, food, sports, humor, literature, entertainment, current events, etc.
4. You may incorporate the optional theme “CARRY THE LIGHT” into either Personal or Lifestyle Memoir.
5. For the optional lottery critique opportunity you must designate your participation during the online entry process; registration numbers will act as lottery “tickets.” No added fee required. Opting out will not affect judging decisions.

CLASS:

1. Personal Memoir Young Adult exhibitor age 16 to 25 years
2. Personal Memoir Adult exhibitor age 26 to 54 years
3. Personal Memoir Senior exhibitor age 55 years and older
4. Lifestyle Memoir Young Adult exhibitor age 16 to 25 years
5. Lifestyle Memoir Adult exhibitor age 26 to 54 years
6. Lifestyle Memoir Senior exhibitor age 55 years and older

DIVISION 327 – BEST BLOG CONTEST

AWARDS OFFERED

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

ELIGIBILITY: Word count 400 words min to 1000 words max.

RULES:

1. Blog can be based on any subject (food, art, technology, sustainability, 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, 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 posts published within a two (2) month period.
4. Blog should be written within a first person point of view.
5. Blog will be judged on overall content, writing style, flow, grammar, spelling, and relativity to the subject matter presented.

CLASS:

1. Online Digital Media; Blog

DIVISION 328 - RECORDED PODCAST AND AUDIOBOOK CONTEST

AWARD OFFERED

1st Place \$100 Rosette

ELIGIBILITY: MP3 recording 10 minutes min to 20 minutes max. For audiobook entries also include your text in a PDF. Word count 1,000 to 2,500 words.

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. Your original podcast can deliver a discussion, a comedy routine, an interview, or a variety of other types of content, including a story.

Definition of Audiobook: a MP3 voice recording of your original first book 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 your original text.

RULES:

1. Submit time-limited audio recordings in MP3 format as a class 1 podcast or class 2 audiobook, minimum length 10 minutes, maximum 20 minutes for either a Class 1 podcast or Class 2 audiobook.
2. Audiobooks: also provide a PDF with your text (Word count 1,000-2,500 words).
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. Enter online at www.sanmateocountyfair.com and upload your MP3 recording plus PDF for audiobook entries when prompted.
7. Podcast and Audiobook entries will be posted at <https://www.sanmateocountyfair.com/literary-arts>

CLASS:

1. Online Digital Media: Podcast
2. Online Digital Media: Audiobook

DIVISION 329 - RECORDED LYRIC SONGWRITING CONTEST

Sponsored by Daniel Swetlik & Maurine Killough <http://www.amusicconnection.com> and <http://www.smilingvestribe.com/himileage>

AWARDS OFFERED

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

ELIGIBILITY: Recording 5 Minutes long max. Submit a PDF lyric sheet PLUS a MP3 or WMA recording not to exceed 5 minutes. 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 both a lyric sheet in a PDF 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 both your PDF lyric sheet and MP3 or WMA recording when prompted.
7. Songwriting entries will be printed and displayed at the fair and also posted at <https://www.sanmateocountyfair.com/literary-arts>

CLASS:

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

Section 6

FICTION CONTESTS

New!

DIVISION 330 - IN THE SPIRIT OF NOVELMANIA: MY TICKET TO CRAZY TOWN **FIRST PERSON NARRATIVE FICTION CONTEST**

Sponsored by Bardi Rosman Koodrin, author of *Novelmania: My Ticket to Crazy Town*
www.amazon.com/Novelmania-My-Ticket-Crazy-Town; <https://bardiblog.wordpress.com>

AWARDS OFFERED

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

ELIGIBILITY: Word Count 2,000 words min to 4,000 words max. Submit a first person narrative short story or chapter one of your unpublished or self-published novel written in any genre except for children (under age 16). All themes; comedic or serious approach. Edit your submission if necessary for word count limitation.

RULES:

1. No synopsis or prologue.
2. *Novelmania* is a fast-paced screwball comedy told in first person immediate by an unreliable narrator. Your story can be dramatic or comedic with any theme or plot but only your narrator should have a POV; pay attention to tense.
3. Novel chapter or short story may be written in any of these genres: Mystery, Suspense, Thriller, Historical, Fantasy, Science Fiction, Speculative Fiction, or YA Young Adult age level 16 years and above. Romance is allowed but sexually explicit material will be disqualified with no refund; no children's stories.
4. The anthology publisher may excerpt submissions longer than 3,000 words.

CLASS:

1. In the Spirit of *Novelmania: My Ticket to Crazy Town* First Person Narrative Fiction

MULTIPLE NOVEL CONTEST ENTRY OPTION: Novel chapter (not short story) may be also submitted to the Division 332 Publisher's Choice Novel Chapter contest (separate entry fee applies). NOTE: short story is not eligible to be submitted to the Division 335 Short Story contest or the Division 336 CWC Writer of the Year Contest.

New!

DIVISION 331 - SPIES WITH BENEFITS THRILLER/ESPIONAGE/ADVENTURE **NOVEL OPENING CHAPTER CONTEST**

Sponsored by Doctor Jac, author of the *Mike and Grace* series *Undaunted Lovers*; *Spies with Benefits*; & *London's Secrets*
Dr. Jac's work can be seen on drjacbooks.com and on drjacanalytics.com. He can be contacted at jac@drjac.com.

AWARDS OFFERED

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

ELIGIBILITY: Word Count 500 words min to 4,000 words max. Submit the first chapter of your unpublished or self-published thriller/espionage/adventure novel.

RULES:

1. No synopsis or prologue.
2. Accepted genres: Mystery, Suspense, Thriller.
3. Romance is allowed, but sexually explicit material will be disqualified, no children's stories.
4. The anthology publisher may excerpt submissions longer than 3,000 words.

MULTIPLE NOVEL CONTEST ENTRY OPTION: Work may be also submitted to the Division 332 Publisher's Choice Novel Chapter contest if it abides by the min/max word count (separate entry fee applies).

CLASS:

1. Spies with Benefits

DIVISION 332 – PUBLISHER’S CHOICE NOVEL CHAPTER CONTEST

Sponsored by Sand Hill Review Press www.sandhillreviewpress.com

AWARD OFFERED

1st Place \$100 Rosette

ELIGIBILITY: Word Count 1,000 words min to 4,000 words max. Submit chapter one of your unpublished novel of any genre except YA young adult and children’s stories. Edit your chapter if necessary for word count limitation.

RULES:

1. No synopsis or prologue.
2. Publisher will choose the winner 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.
3. The anthology publisher may excerpt submissions longer than 3,000 words if page space is limited.

CLASS:

1. Novel Chapter or short story may be written in any of these genres: Mystery, Suspense, Thriller, Fantasy, Science Fiction, or Speculative Fiction. No Romance, Horror, or Erotica.

DIVISION 333 - "HEROES ARISE" HEROIC DEED CONTEST, ANY GENRE

Sponsored by Laurel Anne Hill, author of Heroes Arise (KOMENAR PUBLISHING) www.laurelannehill.com

AWARDS OFFERED

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

ELIGIBILITY: Word Count 1,000 words min, 4,000 words max. Submit chapter one of your unpublished novel of any genre. Edit chapter if necessary for word count.

RULES:

1. No synopsis or prologue.
2. Somewhere in your novel, your main character must perform a heroic deed that is essential to the main plot.
3. Include a brief note at the end of your first-chapter Word document stating:
 - a) What that heroic deed is/will be, and,
 - b) How performing the deed will affect the main character.

CLASS:

1. “Heroes Arise” Heroic Deed

MULTIPLE NOVEL CONTEST ENTRY OPTION: Work may be also submitted to the Division 332 Publisher’s Choice Novel Chapter contest (separate entry fee applies).

New!

DIVISION 334 - FLASH FICTION CONTEST

Sponsored by Carol Park

<http://carolpark.us/wp>

AWARD OFFERED

1st Place \$100 Rosette

ELIGIBILITY: Word Count 750 words min, 1,200 words max. Flash fiction is a short form of storytelling that must still deliver a beginning, middle, and a definitive ending. Stories should reflect the writer’s expertise and knowledge of the flash fiction genre.

RULES:

1. The topic is open but pay attention to the min and max number of words allowed, which will be strictly followed.
2. Refer to <http://www.fictionfactor.com/guests/flashfiction.html> for tips on how to write flash fiction.
3. All themes and genres allowed except for explicit sexual content and profanity.
4. No narrative essays or memoirs in this category.
5. You may incorporate the optional theme “CARRY THE LIGHT.”
6. For the optional lottery critique opportunity, you must designate your participation during the online registration; registration numbers will act as lottery “tickets.” No added fee required. Opting out will not affect judging decisions.

CLASS:

1. Flash Fiction Contest

MULTIPLE CONTEST SUBMISSIONS: Exhibitors may not enter flash fiction in the Division 335 Short Story Contest or the Division 336 California Writers Club Writer of the Year contest.

DIVISION 335 - SHORT STORY

AWARDS OFFERED

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

ELIGIBILITY: Word Count 1,000 words min, 2,000 words max. Stories should reflect the writer's expertise and knowledge of the fiction genre.

RULES:

1. No narrative essays or memoirs in this category.
2. 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.
3. 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 may incorporate the optional theme "CARRY THE LIGHT."
5. No flash fiction accepted in this division.
6. For the optional lottery critique opportunity you must designate your participation during the online registration; 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 336 California Writers Club Writer of the Year contest.

NOTE: additional entry fees apply.

CLASS:

1. General Fiction—Young Adult exhibitor age 16 (min) to 25 years
2. General Fiction—Adult exhibitor age 26-54 years
3. General Fiction—Senior exhibitor 55 years plus
4. Science Fiction/Fantasy—Young Adult exhibitor age 16 (min) to 25 years
5. Science Fiction/Fantasy—Adult exhibitor age 26-54 years
6. Science Fiction/Fantasy—Senior exhibitor 55 years plus
7. Mystery/Thriller—Young Adult exhibitor age 16 (min) to 25 years
8. Mystery/Thriller—Senior exhibitor 55 years plus
9. Western (up to modern day) and/or Historical—Young Adult exhibitor age 16 (min) to 25 years
10. Western (up to modern day) and/or Historical—Adult exhibitor age 26-54 years
11. Western (up to modern day) and/or Historical —Senior exhibitor 55 years plus
12. Humorous—Young Adult exhibitor age 16 (min) to 25 years
13. Humorous—Adult exhibitor age 26-54 years
14. Humorous—Senior exhibitor 55 years plus

DIVISION 336 – CALIFORNIA 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 (\$165 value) in the San Francisco Peninsula Chapter of the California Writers Club (CWC) to run from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019.

ELIGIBILITY: Word count 1,000 words min to 2,000 word max. Open to all short stories written for adults; no essays or poetry.

MULTIPLE CONTEST ENTRY: Work may be also submitted to the Division 335 Short Story contest if applicable (separate entry fee applies).

CLASS:

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

Section 7

POETRY CONTEST

DIVISION 337 - POETRY

AWARDS OFFERED

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

ELIGIBILITY: 40 lines max.

Exhibitors may enter a poem in “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.

POETRY RULES:

1. May be double or single-spaced. Any style form or subject accepted. Do not choose a form that exceeds 40 lines.
2. 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.
3. Exhibitors may not enter the same poem in more than one category or class.
4. Judges reserve the right to switch poems to more appropriate classes

CLASS:

1. Free form poem – Young Adult exhibitor age 16 to 25 years
2. Free form poem – Adult exhibitor age 26 to 54 years
3. Free form poem – Senior exhibitor 55 years plus
4. Structured poem – Young Adult exhibitor age 16 to 25 years
5. Structured poem – Adult exhibitor age 26 to 54 years
6. Structured poem – Senior exhibitor 55 years plus

Section 8

SPECIAL CONTESTS

DIVISION 338 - “WHAT REMAINS UNSAID” SPEAKING OUT CONTEST

Sponsored by Audrey Kalman, author of the novel “What Remains Unsaid”

<http://audreykalman.com>

New!

AWARD OFFERED

1st Place	\$100	Rosette
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ELIGIBILITY: Word Count: 3,500 words max. Submit a short story, narrative non-fiction piece, or the first chapter of your unpublished or self-published novel related to the theme of speaking out. It could be a whisper or a shout, actual speech or metaphorical speech, but your piece must show characters using their voices. Any genre welcome except for YA or children’s. No political themes. Edit your submission if necessary for word count limitation.

RULES:

1. No synopsis or prologue.
2. “What Remains Unsaid” explores the consequences of failing to speak our true stories to one another. Your submission should in some way touch on the theme of speaking an emotional truth or sharing something from deep within. Otherwise, form, genre, and content are open with the exception of those mentioned in #3 below.
3. Your piece may be written in any of these genres: literary, mystery, suspense, thriller, historical, fantasy, science fiction, or speculative fiction. No political themes. Please note that sexually explicit material will be disqualified with no refund; no romance, young adult, or children’s stories.
4. The anthology publisher may excerpt submissions longer than 3,000 words.

CLASS:

1. What Remains Unsaid

New!

DIVISION 339 - SUSTAINABILITY: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?

According to dictionary.com “sustainability is the avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance. It can also mean “the ability to be maintained at a certain rate or level.” What does sustainability mean to you globally, ecologically, or personally? Can you sustain your own life in a better, more meaningful way? Explore this far-reaching topic via poetry, an essay or memoir, or short story.

AWARDS OFFERED

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

ELIGIBILITY: Word Count for short story, essay, or memoir 1,000 words min, 2,000 words max; poetry 40 lines max. Entries should reflect the writer's reflections on the topic of sustainability in any capacity.

RULES:

2. Poetry may be double or single-spaced. Any style form or subject accepted. Do not choose a form that exceeds 40 lines.
2. Submissions accepted in a poem, essay, short story, or memoir form; can be of a more personal nature as long as the theme of sustainability is maintained.
3. Short stories may incorporate the theme of sustainability within any fiction genre, such as fantasy or science fiction.
4. Comedic representations of the topic are acceptable but no violence, sexual nature, or profanity allowed.
5. You may also incorporate the optional theme “CARRY THE LIGHT: THE QUALITY OF ONE’S DREAM WILL DETERMINE ITS POWER.”
6. Exhibitors may enter more than one type of submission in this division.
7. Judges reserve the right to switch submissions to a more appropriate class.

CLASS:

1. Sustainability: What Does It Mean To You?

DIVISION 340 – THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE: SHORT STORY, ESSAY, OR MONOLOGUE CONTEST

Sponsored by Theme Consultant and 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**

AWARDS OFFERED

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

This contest is to honor immigrants who struggle over language barriers, poverty, stigmas, and injustice.

ELIGIBILITY: Word Count 1,500 word max unpublished short story, essay, or monologue (no synopsis or prologue).

RULES:

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. Focus on “immigrant” experience.

CLASS:

1. Immigrant Experience

New!

DIVISION 341 - STORIES FOR CHILDREN CONTEST

Sponsored by Natasha Yim, children's author and free-lance writer
www.natashayim.com

AWARDS OFFERED

1st Place		Rosette and editorial/critique package worth \$150
2nd Place	\$50	Rosette
3rd Place	\$25	Rosette

RULES:

1. Children's stories (picture books to YA) written by contestants aged 16 years or older.
2. 1,000 words max. (can be an entire picture book story or 1,000 words of a novel).
3. Entries will be judged on: character(s), plot, writing quality, and ability to engage the reader.
4. No synopsis or prologue.
5. Your children's piece may be written in a genre form such as literary, mystery, suspense, thriller, historical, fantasy, science fiction, or speculative fiction. No political themes. Young adult stories can have romantic elements or subplots but romance should not be the focus. Sexually explicit material will be disqualified with no refund.

CLASS:

1. Stories for Children

DIVISION 800 - NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR UNIVERSITY, BELMONT, CA
\$20,000 CREATIVE WRITING SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST



www.ndnu.edu/financial-aid/day-undergraduate/scholarships-grants

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.

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 year as a full-time student.

REQUIREMENTS: Subject matter for all entries must be appropriate for "all ages" reading. No excessive violence, profanity, sexual nature, etc.

Submit 3 to 5 poems single or double-spaced; **line count 40 lines or less**

Essay entries can be either persuasive or personal; **500 words min to 1,000 words max**

Short stories can be any genre noted; **1,000 words min to 2,000 words max**

MANDATORY: Also include a first-person essay **350 min to 500 words max** entitled, "Why I Want to Attend NDNU."

RULES:

1. No geographical restrictions; US citizenship not required. Current NDNU students are not eligible for the Scholarship. Only one (1) entry per student.
2. Provide proof of a 3.00 GPA or above and enroll in NDNU within 1 year of award. If the 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.
3. OPTIONAL THEME: "Carry the Light – The Quality of One's Dream Will Determine Its Power."
4. JUDGING: Notre Dame de Namur University will make the final determination. The fair will not charge for scholarship entries and no cash prize will be awarded. Entry must have correct punctuation, spelling and grammar, and show promise in the craft of writing.

CLASS:

1. NDNU Creative Writing Scholarship

OUR CARRY THE LIGHT THEME 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. We encourage contestants to consider this theme but it is not mandatory, nor will it add extra points to the contest judging template.

CRITIQUE LOTTERIES

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! Critique lotteries sponsored by writing and editing consultants Darlene Frank, Audrey Kalman, and Lisa Meltzer Penn.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to essay, memoir, and short story contestants; there is no charge for this option. Darlene, Audrey, and Lisa are active members of the San Francisco Peninsula Writers, a branch of the CWC California Writers Club www.cwc-peninsula.org. They are carrying on the club's 100-year-old tradition of "Writers Helping Writers." These professional editors and book coaches will provide editorial feedback on works drawn at random via contestants' entry numbers, whether the submissions won a prize or not. Winners will also be offered a no-charge phone consultation on their writing.

RULES:

1. There is no extra charge for the optional memoir, essay, and short story lotteries.
2. By choosing this option, you agree to have your story and its critique posted on the Fair website if you are a lottery winner.
3. At registration, check the Optional Lottery Sign-Up box; you must do this by the deadline of 11:59 pm on April 2, 2018.
4. Entrants aged 16 to 18 must provide parental permission in order to be published in our online Literary Arts Archive webpage.
5. For the optional lottery critique opportunity, you must designate your participation in the online registration of this essay contest. Registration numbers will act as lottery "tickets." No added fee required. Opting out will not affect judging decisions.

MEET DARLENE, LISA AND AUDREY IN PERSON: Look for their special appearances during Fair Week! They will provide critique and editing advice in an "Ask the Editors" workshop on Sunday June 10th from 4 to 5 pm. They will also give free private writing consults that day between 6 and 7:00 pm. Sign up via email literary@smceec.co or at the literary stage on a first-come, first-serve basis for writers who attend the earlier Q&A. Also on hand, to offer private consults will be professional writers Laurel Anne Hill and Tory Hartmann.

Print out two poems or one to two pages of a story or essay for review on Sunday, June 10th.

AUTHOR ARCHIVE

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all literary contestants; there is no charge for this option.

We can no longer publish every entrant in our anthology. Following our theme of *Writers Helping Writers*, we will provide all contest entrants the option of being published online in our Literary Arts Author Archive webpage, to be permanently archived per year. We will publish online each entrant's submission regardless of a win, and can include your optional bio (75 words or less) and headshot, plus website and blog links.

RULES:

1. You must indicate during registration if you want to be published on our online page.
2. You must upload your bio, headshot, and web links by the deadline of 11:59 pm on **April 2, 2018** in order to be included.
3. Entrants aged 16 to 18 must provide parental permission in order to be published in our online Literary Arts Archive webpage.

VOLUNTEER RAFFLE

THE SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA CWC WILL RAFFLE OFF A YEAR'S FREE CLUB MEMBERSHIP WORTH \$165.00. YOU CAN EARN ONE RAFFLE TICKET FOR EVERY THREE HOURS YOU VOLUNTEER AT THE FAIR!

<http://www.cwc-peninsula.org>

All you have to do is come to the fair (June 9-16) and help out at the Literary Stage. Support the CWC club members' professional-level workshops and presentations; help sell our *Carry the Light* anthology; interact with fairgoers; promote the club's features and benefits to new literary contestants; or join the audience and enjoy our workshops, readings, and even live music. This prize is worth \$165.00!

To be eligible, you must join us for a minimum of a three-hour shift that is not related to your own presentation (such as a reading for *Fault Zone*). You will receive a free parking pass and Fair entry ticket and all you have to do in return is spend a few fun hours with us. To increase your odds of winning you can enter your name into the hat every day you come to help. The winner of our free one-year CWC Membership Raffle will be announced on the Literary Stage on Sat., June 16th at 2:00 pm.

THE LITERARY STAGE

THE CWC/FAIR PARTNERSHIP The San Mateo County Fair (SMCF) and the SF Peninsula Writers, a branch of the California Writers Club (CWC), joined forces in 2009 with the idea of giving writers a presence and a voice. For a more prominent presence, the literary department designed an ingenious method of displaying each writer's contest submission on a board that fairgoers can easily detach from the wall to read.

THE LITERARY STAGE was created to give writers a voice in the Fine Arts Galleria in Expo Hall. Members of the local CWC have volunteered their time and talents to facilitate over 150 free professional level workshops, author presentations, contest winners' panels and open mic readings, critiques, one-act plays, interviews, contestant readings, anthology autograph parties, the "Rejection Generator," and annual Author Book Fairs. These events launched our signature slogan of "events within the event." While the SF Peninsula branch sponsors the Literary Stage, it is open to other organizations and individuals to utilize for their own literary projects. The Event Schedule will be posted on our literary arts web page.

All details at <https://www.sanmateocountyfair.com/literary-arts>

