



GUIDELINES FOR GCWA WRITING CONTEST

- Writing Contest is open to GCWA members and the public.
- Original, unpublished submissions only:
 - Your entry must be original, in English, unpublished, and unproduced, not accepted by any other publisher or producer before March 15, 2016.
- Word count:
 - Fiction / Nonfiction– 1500 words maximum
 - Poetry – 40 lines maximum
- Submit three (3) copies. Your submission(s) will not be returned.
 - Note: Fewer than six (6) entries in a category will constitute no contest and entry fees shall be returned.
- Age requirement for entrants – 18 years old by March 15, 2016.
- Student submission requires current identification of school where actively enrolled.
- All entry fees are due in U.S. Dollars, accompanied by an entry form.
- Deadline:
 - Entries postmarked after December 1, 2016, will not be accepted.
- If you submit a portion of a novel, please understand that it will be judged as a complete story.
- All Judges' decisions are final.
 - Judges will consider: characterization, plot, structure, spelling, grammar and punctuation.
Visit our Website <http://gulfwriters.org/contest/> for judging criteria forms.
 - Judges reserve the right to NOT select a winner if entries fail to meet quality criteria.
- Winner notification: by US mail and email before February 1, 2017

- The winning submissions (top three) will be published on GCWA's Website with author's permission.
 - GCWA has only first rights. Copyright and all other rights remain property of author.
 - Winners will be announced at the February 25, 2017 general meeting.

- You may enter as many submissions as you like in each of the following categories:
 - Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry.
 - No gratuitous violence or erotica.

- Typed submissions only (handwritten submissions will be disregarded), 3 copies.

Formatting:

- Font: Times New Roman, Font size: 12
 - Margins: top/bottom 1", left/right 1" Text unjustified (ragged right margin)
 - Fiction & Nonfiction: double spaced, single side on 8 ½ x 11 white paper
 - Children's: double spaced, single side on 8 1/2 x 11 white paper (submit to Fiction category)
 - Poetry may be single or double spaced as best befits the work.
 - Judging is done by blind entry method. (DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME ON ENTRY PAGES.)
 - You must include the title of your entry on each page
 - All pages must be numbered – bottom center of page
 - Each of your three copies of entries must be stapled in top left corner.
-
- Entry form:
 - Entry form should NOT be stapled to entry (Judging by blind entry method)
 - Author's name (Pen names are allowed. We only need your real name if you are chosen as a winner – in order to issue prizes.)
 - You must complete one entry page for each item entered.
 - Each form must include your full mailing address, email, and telephone number, title of work, submission category, and word count.