

# Young Writers Competition

## Young Writers Competition

Students in the 8th–12th grade who live in Jefferson County, NY, as of May 1st, 2026 can submit poetry or a short story by May 7th.

All finalist and semi-finalist we be published in the Thousand Islands Student Writers Competition Collection: *2026 Edition* which will be published on or about June 6th, 2026. Plus, finalists will receive a cash prize of \$100 per student.

The Thousand Islands Young Writers Competition is sponsored by the Cape Vincent Arts Council and The Little Book Store “The mission of the Thousand Islands Young Writers Competition is to promote expression through creative writing with the youth of our region.”

There is no entry fee.

## Submission Categories

Entries must be typed (nothing handwritten or scanned), with a total submission limit of 1500 words.

- **Fiction:** a short story or stand-alone excerpt from a larger piece.
- **Poetry:** between 1-3 poems, with a combined limit of 1500 words.

Finalists will be selected in each category. Distinguished submissions in each category and grade are also selected for publishing.

We ask that participants submit in only **one** category and submit only one time per year. Word counts are strict and include all the text submitted, including headers, footers, and footnotes.

## Guidelines

- All entries must be **original work**. Each will be checked for plagiarism. Plagiarized work will be disqualified.
- The use of Artificial Intelligence or AI is prohibited and will be disqualified.
- All writers agree to being published in the *Thousand Islands Student Writers Competition Collection: 2026 Edition* for no additional compensation.
- All writing must be reviewed and approved by a school sponsor teacher. We will use your sponsoring teacher as a contact for the competition should we have any questions. For homeschooled students, please contact a mentor to sponsor your writing.

## Deadline

Enter your submission by the deadline of **May 7, 2026**.

## To Enter:

Email your digital submission to: [minion@littlebookstoreandmore.com](mailto:minion@littlebookstoreandmore.com)

Subject line: “TI Young Writers Comp Submission”

Also enclose the following application as a scanned document

# Thousand Islands Young Writers Competition Entry Form

Author name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Category  Fiction  Poetry

I promise that I did not use AI or other people's work in my submission. All submitted work is my own.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

As part of the submission guidelines to enter the Thousand Islands Young Writers Competition I agree that my child is granted permission to being published in the Thousand Islands Student Writers Competition Collection: 2026 Edition, if selected, for no additional compensation. It is understood that additional copies will be sold to benefit future competitions.

Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian name \_\_\_\_\_

All writing must be reviewed and approved by a school sponsor teacher. We will use your sponsoring teacher as a contact for the competition should we have any questions. For homeschooled students, please contact a mentor to sponsor your writing.

Sponsoring Teacher Name \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring Teacher Email \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring Teacher Signature \_\_\_\_\_

