**GUIDELINES FOR 2024 CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST**

**sponsored by**

**WYTHEVILLE CHAUTAUQUA FESTIVAL**

**June 15-22, 2024**

**CREATIVE WRITING DAY AWARDS AND GUEST SPEAKER**

**June 21, 2024**

CATEGORIES:                       Fiction—750-4000 words

                                            Nonfiction —750-4000 words

                                            Poetry—under 50 lines

AGE GROUPS:                      Students, 6th to 9th grades

                                            Students, 10th to 12th grades

                                            Adult Category (including college students)

**PRIZES:** Prizes awarded in each category if judges determine quality of entries merits recognition. First, second and third place prizes will be given, ranging from $30 to $60.

**Contest open to AMATEUR WRITERS only**. You are considered professional if you receive at least one third of your income from writing or if you teach creative writing at the college level.

**Submission Guidelines:**

1. Submit only one manuscript per category (i.e., only one poem, one piece of fiction, one piece of nonfiction), but enter as many categories as you wish.
2. Include an **entry cover sheet** with each submission, which contains your name, address, phone number, email address, age group, and the literary category.
3. Your name should not appear on your manuscript.
4. All submissions should **be typed in 12-point font** (Times New Roman or Arial), **double spaced, with 1-inch margins.**
5. Do not submit works that have been previously published. This includes online publications.
6. **Email submissions preferred**. Attach cover sheet and manuscript as separate Word or PDF files. If mailing, **send only one typed copy of manuscript**. Please retain a copy of your manuscript, as none will be returned.
7. **Payment (adult entries only):** Enclose a check or money order for $15 for the entry fee. **Make checks payable to *Wythe Arts Council*.**
8. No entry fee for 6-12th grade students.
9. **Email entries with the subject line “Chautauqua Creative Writing,” the age group, and the category** to [julia.tomiak@gmail.com](mailto:julia.tomiak@gmail.com). Or mail to Julia Tomiak, Chair, Chautauqua Creative Writing Contest, P.O. Box 967, Wytheville, VA, 24382.
10. **Entries must be postmarked by May 27, 2024.**

**Awards:** Winners will be notified prior to June 14. Non-winners will not be notified. Winners will be recognized and awards presented at the Chautauqua Festival’s Creative Writing Day on Friday, **June 21, 10am-12pm at St. Paul United Methodist Church, 330 Church St. Wytheville.** Our guest author presenter will be David Joy, and we encourage everyone to attend.

   Look for updated info and writing prompts at <https://www.facebook.com/ChautauquaCreativeWriting>