

CARTERET WRITERS, INC.
Guidelines to the 2020 Annual Writing Contest

GENERAL

All entries must be submitted in U.S. English
January 1, 2020: Contest Open to Entries
March 11, 2020: Contest Deadline for Entries

AWARDS (for each category)

First place: \$100 and Publication in *Shoal*
Second place: \$50 and Publication in *Shoal*
Third place: \$25 and Publication in *Shoal*
Honorable Mention: Publication in *Shoal*
All awards paid by check in U.S. currency

Winning authors must submit an electronic copy of their entries and a bio less than 100 words to
carteretwriters@gmail.com

For publication in *Shoal*, entries may be edited by the author based on judge's comments

ENTRY FEES

Members of Carteret Writers: \$10.00 per entry
Non-members: \$15.00 per entry

CATEGORIES

Contest entries must be unpublished, in any form, at the time of submission.

1. Flash Fiction: 750 words or less.
2. Fiction: 3,000 words or less. May be a short story or excerpt from a book. If an excerpt, please state this on the submission. Multiple entries may not be from the same book.
3. Nonfiction: 3,000 words or less. May be an excerpt from a book. If an excerpt, please state this on the submission. Multiple entries may not be from the same book.
4. Poetry: 36 lines or less per poem. May submit up to 3 poems per entry.
5. Writing for Children: 3,000 words or less. May be fiction or nonfiction, a short story or an excerpt from a book. Multiple entries may not be from the same book. Poetry submissions must be 36 lines or less per poem. May submit up to 3 poems per entry. All entries must be suitable for children under the age of eighteen.

A minimum of ten entries from ten different authors is required for a category to be judged. If not met, the board will determine if the category will be eliminated and entry fees refunded.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Manuscripts not following these guidelines will be disqualified. Entry fees will not be refunded.

1. All entries must be text only. No illustrations of any kind. Writing for Children will be text only in one continuous manuscript (i.e. no page breaks for illustrations).
2. Submit two copies of each entry with one cover sheet per entry. Do not list multiple entries on a single cover sheet. Fill out each cover sheet completely.
3. Do not staple and no binders, please.

4. Entries must be typed on one side of 8-1/2" by 11" white paper only, double-spaced (except poetry), with 1" margins all around.
5. Use Times New Roman 12 pt. font. No other fonts accepted.
6. Paragraph indents should be at the .5 inch mark.
7. Formatting must be consistent throughout the manuscript.
8. First page must have the title with category in the upper right corner. The second and all subsequent pages of each entry must have the title, entry category, **and page number at the top right.**
9. The first page of Writing for Children entries must also include the age group of the work.
10. DO NOT include the author's name or any personal information on any page of the manuscript. Personal information will be only on the cover sheet.
11. Payment will be by check or money order written to Carteret Writers.
12. Submissions may be mailed, but must be postmarked by March 11, 2020. Submissions may also be delivered at the luncheon meetings in January, February, or March. Mail submissions to:

Writing Contest
Carteret Writers, Inc.
P.O. Box 2284
Morehead City, NC 28557

BLIND JUDGING

Blind judging means there are no names or identifying marks of the author on the submissions being judged. If there are, the submission will be disqualified without a refund.

Judges for each category will be announced prior to the deadline of March 11, 2020. Judging will be conducted by published authors, journalists, or other professionals in the field of writing who are not members of Carteret Writers.

Judges must select at least one first place winner. Judges are encouraged, but not required to select a second, third, and honorable mention place winner.

Those submitting an entry will not contact the judge concerning the entry. If so, the judge will report the contact to the administrators and the submission will be disqualified without a refund.

ADMINISTRATIVE

All submissions will be opened by administrators who are Carteret Writer members and do not have a submission in any category of the contest. The submissions will be numbered for confidential identification and forwarded to the category judge.

All decisions by the judges are final. Winners will be announced at the May 2020 awards dinner to be announced on www.carteretwriters.org when details are finalized. A contest winner does not need to be present to claim the award.

QUESTIONS?

Please email us at carteretwriters@gmail.com.