

SCSC WRITING CONTEST

2017–18 Theme: Conservation & Sustainability

The SCSC Writing Contest provides students with an opportunity to express themselves through fiction, non-fiction and/or poetry. This contest was established to encourage the love of language and writing for all students and as a way to recognize the talented young writers in south central Minnesota. SCSC is partnering with Minnesota State University, Mankato. Students in grades K–12 attending public, private or homeschools are eligible to enter. Up to three pieces per category and submissions in multiple categories are welcome. Entries should address the 2017–18 theme: Conservation & Sustainability. For additional contest details, www.mnscsc.org/writing-contest.

How to Enter: Create a poem, fiction or non-fiction piece. Follow the general rules and entry guidelines listed below. The category descriptions for poetry, fiction and non-fiction, are listed below. Submit your writings along with an entry form via email or mail. Entries must be received by March 19, 2018.

CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS:

Poetry:

Arrangement of words in an artistic and purposeful manner that expresses the writer's thoughts and/or feelings about a subject of their choice using style and rhythm (ex: sonnets, haiku, free verse).

- Limit three entries per student
- Maximum length is two pages, double-spaced per entry

Fiction (Imaginary/Fantasy):

Stories that describe imaginary events and people that entertain the reader with realistic details, involving characters who experience a conflict (ex: historical fiction, realistic fiction, fantasy, science fiction, mystery).

- Limit three entries per student
- Maximum length is five pages, double-spaced per entry

Non-Fiction (True/Factual):

(Choose one or more non-fiction types)

Personal narrative: A true story that describes a real event or experiences in the author's life.

Information: Factual writing to convey knowledge of a topic and research findings.

Essay/Opinion: A feeling or thought you have about a subject or topic, supported by research.

- Limit three entries per student
- Maximum length is five pages, double-spaced per entry

All entries should relate to the 2017–18 theme: Conservation & Sustainability.

Conservation: careful preservation and protection of something

Sustainability: using a resource in a way that it is not depleted or permanently damaged

General Rules:

- Entries must be the student's original work and previously unpublished.
- Entry forms are available on the back.
- One entry form should be completed per individual.
- Each entry form can be used for up to three poems, three fiction and/or three non-fiction submissions.
- Entries must be received by March 19, 2018.
- Each entry submission must include entry fees or confirmation of online payment.
- Winning entries will be published in an anthology. All entries will be published online. Please refrain from explicit language or content.
- Please save a copy of each entry for your records.

Entry Guidelines:

- Title each entry piece.
- Entries should be typed or written on white (or notebook) paper in legible font/handwriting.
- Do not put your name on entries.
- Please, no staples or other binding.

Judging process:

Entries will be reviewed by Minnesota State University, Mankato elementary education students who will score based on a rubric.

Announcing Winners:

Winners will be announced on the SCSC website and contacted via email to attend the award ceremony.

Award Ceremony:

An award ceremony will be held on May 3, 2018 to honor the finalists. Attire is business casual. Additional details will be provided to winning students.

Awards:

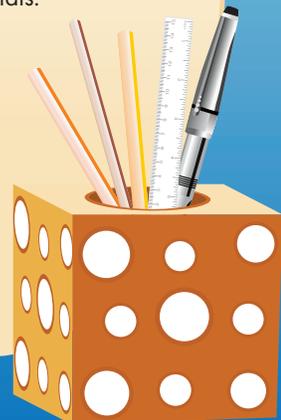
Each student will receive a copy of the anthology for themselves and their school. Additional prizes may be awarded.

Other information:

Copyright reverts to authors upon publication. By participating in this event, you give SCSC permission to use any audio/visual recordings and photographs taken during the event and give permission to publish your work online and/or in printed materials.

For more information, visit www.mnscsc.org/writing-contest.

Questions: mhillmann@mnscsc.org or 507-389-2509



SCSC Writing Contest Entry Form

To be completed by EACH student (Please complete entire form)

Entry Deadline: Received by March 19, 2018

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Contact Person _____ Relationship to Student _____

Student Home City _____ Contact Phone _____

Contact Email (required; one most used) _____

School Name _____ School City _____

___ **Poetry:** Limit 3. \$3 for up to 3 poems.

Titles: (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

___ **Fiction:** Limit 3. \$3 each

Titles: (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

___ **Creative Non-fiction:** Limit 3. \$3 each

Titles: (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Total Payment \$ _____

___ **Paid online**

Paid online (Visit www.mnscsc.org/events-registration and choose "SCSC Writing Contest Online Payments" listed on March 19.)

___ **Paid by check** (include student name in check memo). **Check number** _____

Please make checks payable to "SCSC."

By submitting an entry I acknowledge that I have read and accept the rules of the contest. I certify that the writing submitted is my original work and has not been published elsewhere. I give permission to publish my submission in an anthology, on a website or both as well as in promotional materials.

Student Signature (*typing name is signature if submitting electronically*) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (*typing name is signature if submitting electronically*) _____

Send entry, entry form and payment to:

Mary Hillmann
Attn: SCSC Writing Contest
South Central Service Cooperative
2075 Lookout Drive, North Mankato, MN 56003
Email: mhillmann@mnscsc.org

Questions:

Mary Hillmann
mhillmann@mnscsc.org
507-389-2405

