

# SCSC WRITING CONTEST

## 2019–20 Theme: Rights & Responsibilities

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 2019–20 theme: Rights & Responsibilities. For additional contest details, [www.mnscsc.org/writing-contest](http://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. Submit your writings along with an entry form via email or mail. Entries must be received by March 27, 2020.

### 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

**All entries should relate to the 2019-2020 theme: Rights & Responsibilities.**

**Right:** just, good, proper, standard, fact, truth

**Responsible:** accountable, reliable, dependable, complete an obligation

#### 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

#### General Rules:

- Entries must be the student's original work and previously unpublished.
- Entry forms are available on the back or online at [www.mnscsc.org/writing-contest](http://www.mnscsc.org/writing-contest). Electronic entries preferred.
- One entry form should be completed per individual.
- Entries must be received electronically or by mail by March 27, 2020.
- Each entry submission must include entry fees.
- 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 contacted via email to attend the award ceremony.

#### Award Ceremony:

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

#### Awards:

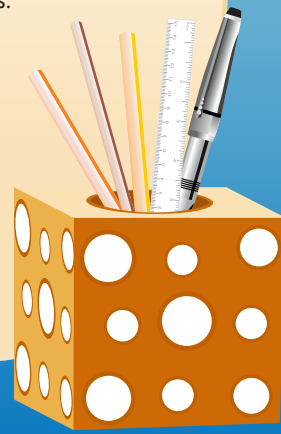
Each winner will receive a copy of the anthology. Additional prizes may be awarded.

#### 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 print materials.

**For more information, visit [www.mnscsc.org/writing-contest](http://www.mnscsc.org/writing-contest)**

Questions: [mhillmann@mnscsc.org](mailto:mhillmann@mnscsc.org) or 507-389-2509



# SCSC Writing Contest Entry Form

**Electronic entry and payment preferred at [www.mnscsc.org/writing-contest](http://www.mnscsc.org/writing-contest)**

Entry Deadline: Received by March 27, 2020

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. \$5 each

Titles: (1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

**\_\_\_Fiction:** Limit 3. \$5 each

Titles: (1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

**\_\_\_Creative Non-fiction:** Limit 3. \$5 each

Titles: (1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Payment \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**\_\_\_Paid by check** (include student name in memo). **Check number** \_\_\_\_\_ Please make checks payable to "SCSC."

**\_\_\_ Paid by cash**

*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. I understand that my submission may be edited for content, language or formatting for the published anthology.*

Student Signature (typing name is signature if submitting electronically) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature (typing name is signature if submitting electronically) \_\_\_\_\_

**Electronic submissions are encouraged:**

Online: [www.mnscsc.org/writing-contest](http://www.mnscsc.org/writing-contest)

Email: [mhillmann@mnscsc.org](mailto:mhillmann@mnscsc.org)

**Send payment, printed entries and forms to:**

Mary Hillmann

Attn: SCSC Writing Contest

South Central Service Cooperative

2075 Lookout Drive, North Mankato, MN 56003

**Questions:**

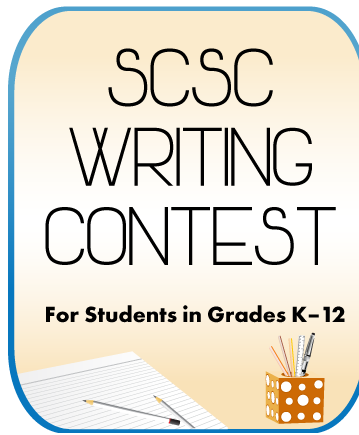
Mary Hillmann

[mhillmann@mnscsc.org](mailto:mhillmann@mnscsc.org)

507-389-2405



*Quality Through Cooperation Since 1976*



## Poetry Scoring Rubric and Feedback

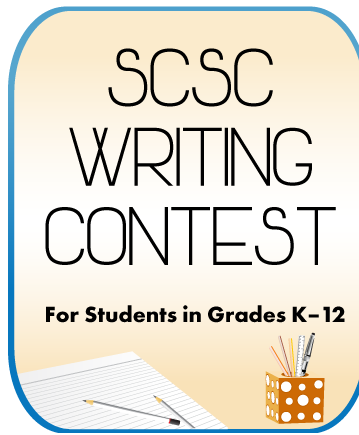
Title of Piece: \_\_\_\_\_

Author Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Please refer to the rubric below and provide feedback on the piece.  
 (1= needs improvement, 3= good, 5= excellent)

	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Use of Concrete and Figurative Language</b>					
<b>Rhythm</b>					
<b>Originality</b>					
<b>Voice and Style</b>					
<b>Form/Content</b>					
<b>Relevance to Theme</b>					

**Comments:**



## Fiction Scoring Rubric and Feedback

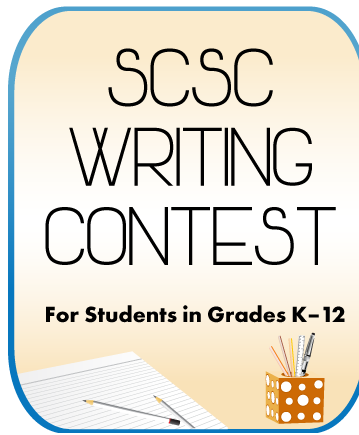
Title of Piece: \_\_\_\_\_

Author Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Please refer to the rubric below and provide feedback on the piece.  
 (1= needs improvement, 3= good, 5= excellent)

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Use of Vivid/Descriptive Language</b>					
<b>Originality</b>					
<b>Pacing/Flow</b>					
<b>Voice and Style</b>					
<b>Character Development</b>					
<b>Sentence Structure/Grammar</b>					
<b>Relevance to Theme</b>					

**Comments:**



## Non-Fiction Scoring Rubric and Feedback

Title of Piece: \_\_\_\_\_

Author Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Please refer to the rubric below and provide feedback on the piece.  
(1= needs improvement, 3= good, 5= excellent)

	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Use of Specific/Detailed Language</b>					
<b>Originality</b>					
<b>Pacing/Flow</b>					
<b>Voice and Style</b>					
<b>Subject Development</b>					
<b>Sentence Structure/Grammar</b>					
<b>Relevance to Theme</b>					

**Comments:**