

2023 Milwaukee PBS KIDS Writers Contest Rules

MANY WILL ENTER, FEW WILL WIN. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. The PBS KIDS Writers Contest is produced by Milwaukee PBS (the “Contest” or “Promotion”) is based on the Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators Contest, a concept developed by WNED. The Contest begins on or about January 1, 2023, the Story Entry Deadline date is Friday, March 24, 2023, by 5 pm, and ends with the *announcement of winners* on or about May 12, 2023. The Contest consists of local judging. To enter the Contest, children may submit an entry to Milwaukee PBS, 1036 N. Eighth Street, Milwaukee WI 53233. These contest rules (listed below) are subject to modification by Milwaukee PBS at their discretion even if the contest has begun. The Contest is void where prohibited, and sponsored by Milwaukee PBS.

Eligibility & Entry Guidelines

- Entrants must be children in kindergarten, first, second or third grade.
- Children of PBS, PBS stations or their affiliates, sales representatives, subsidiaries or parent companies, advertising/sales promotion agencies, and judges are not eligible.
- To be eligible, an entrant must reside in the following southeastern Wisconsin counties: Dodge, Jefferson, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Sheboygan, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha.
- Only one entry per person will be accepted in this Contest; all subsequent entries will be disqualified.
- Only single author stories qualify (no co-authored stories).
- Stories can be fact or fiction, prose or poetry.
- Any failure to adhere to these Contest Rules may result in disqualification from the Contest.

Word Count Requirement

- Kindergarten and first grade stories must have a **minimum of 50 words and a maximum of 200 words**
- Second and third grade stories must have a **minimum of 100 words and a maximum of 350 words**.
- The word count includes “a,” “an,” “and,” and “the” but not the words on non-story pages such as the title page or those that enhance the illustration.
- Text must be written legibly or typed.
- Children who cannot write may dictate their story to be printed, written legibly or typed.
- Text may be integrated into the illustration pages or on separate pages.
- Non-English text must be translated on the same page and the translated text (English) must adhere to word count.
- Invented spelling is accepted.

Format & Illustrations

- Stories must have at least **5 original, clear, and colorful illustrations**.
- **Original art** can include drawings, collages, 3-D constructions, and photographs created by the author.
- Stories submitted must be created **on one side of the paper and numbered on the back of each page**.
- Stories **must have a cover design (title page) in addition to the required number of illustrations**.
- Stories **must be book bound or stapled** together

Official Entry Form

- Each entry must include the Milwaukee PBS KIDS Young Writers Contest Entry Form, with the required signature of parent/guardian (and, if appropriate, the optional signature of the sponsoring teacher), consenting to allowing their children to enter the Contest, confirming that the story and art are original, and granting certain rights to the entry materials.
- In order to be eligible, the entry form must be complete and legible.

Judging, Awards, & Notification

All entries submitted in the judging of the Contest will be judged using the judging criteria and percentages listed below by a panel of judges. The entry with the highest percentage in each grade will be deemed the prize winner for that grade at Milwaukee PBS. Judging of the Contest will occur in April 2023.

- 40% Creativity and originality of plot and/or themes
- 40% Story structure and use of literary devices
- 20% Relevance, quality and originality of illustration

All decisions of the judges are final and binding and not subject to appeal or review.

Prizes

Each entrant will receive an Achievement Certificate, bookmark and stickers. Other prizes, for grade levels, as of the printing of the Contest Rules, are not established. Milwaukee PBS reserves the right to govern prizes.

Return of Entries – VERY IMPORTANT

The Contest administrators at Milwaukee PBS will make every effort, but are not required, to return mailed entries. Entries will be returned only if accompanied by a **stamped, self-addressed envelope of appropriate size**. Milwaukee PBS is not responsible for late, lost, stolen, misdirected, damaged, mutilated, incomplete, returned, or illegible entries, or postage-due mail.

Rights Associated with Contest

Submission of the Entry Form constitutes permission from the participant's parent/legal guardian for Milwaukee PBS to use the participant's name, likeness, biographical information, information and materials contained in the Entry Form, photographs, and any statements or remarks made about the Contest in advertising and promotion without further compensation or permission, except where prohibited by law. All entries, and any copyrights therein, become the sole property of Milwaukee PBS. By entering, the entrant's parent/legal guardian agrees to abide by the above stated rules, and warrant that their child's/ward's entry is their original work and does not infringe upon or violate rights of any third party, and grant to Milwaukee PBS the right to edit, publish, promote, and otherwise use their entry materials without permission, notice or compensation. No royalties will be paid at this time or any time. By submitting an entry and Entry Form, each participant's parent/legal guardian, on behalf of the participant, agrees all right, title, and interest in and to the entry and Entry Form to Milwaukee PBS and warrants that the participant's parent/legal guardian has the authority to assign such right, title, and interest. In the event that any applicable law requires certain formalities to be fulfilled to effectuate such grant of rights, each participant (and parent/guardian) agrees to cooperate with Milwaukee PBS to achieve fulfillment of such formalities. By submitting an Entry Form, each participant's parent/legal guardian, on behalf of participant, agrees to be bound by these Contest Rules. Each participant's parent/legal guardian, on behalf of the participant, agrees to release and hold Milwaukee PBS and its employees, officers, directors, shareholders, agents, representatives, subsidiaries, parent companies, or other affiliated companies harmless from any and all damages, losses, claims and liabilities arising out of participation in the Contest or resulting from acceptance or claiming of any prize hereunder. ***Milwaukee PBS reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to terminate, suspend or otherwise cancel the Contest at any time.*** In the event of this contest being cancelled, no prizes will be awarded. Income and all other taxes are the responsibility of the prize recipient. Milwaukee PBS is not responsible for any expenses incurred in connection with entrant participation in the Contest.

Privacy:

Unless otherwise specified, any and all information connected in connection with this Contest will be used by Sponsor solely for the purpose of administering the Contest.