



AND



## 2008 Writing Competition for Middle School and High School Students

**Eligible Students:** This contest is open to students worldwide, attending public, private, or home schools. Students must be in junior high/middle school or high school in the U.S., or the equivalent level in their specific school system. Entries may be a story, poem, or essay, written specifically for the contest, or a school assignment.

**Categories for entries:** Middle School (grades 7-8) or High School (grades 9-12), with sub-categories in Short Story (fiction), Poetry, and/or Essay (nonfiction)

**Language:** All entries must be in English.

**Entry Limit:** An entrant may enter no more than one (1) entry in each category, equaling a maximum of three (3) entries.

**Entry Fee:** None

**Deadline:** All entries must be received between August 1, 2007 and November 1, 2007. Winners will be announced in February 2008 and awards presented at the EPIC conference, in March 2008.

**Judging:** Entries will be judged by a panel of judges, including teachers, librarians, published writers, publishers, and editors. All entrants will receive feedback from the first-round judging panel, with the finalists moving to a secondary judging panel.

| GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSIONS   |   |
|--|---|
| Nothing profane, sexually explicit, or libelous will be accepted.  |   |
| Middle School Category   | High School Category  |
| <b>Short story (fiction)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum length: 750 words</li> <li>All genres will be considered.</li> </ul> | <b>Short story (fiction)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum length: 1000 words</li> <li>All genres will be considered.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Poetry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum length: 20 lines</li> <li>All themes and forms will be accepted.</li> </ul>         | <b>Poetry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum length: 30 lines</li> <li>All themes and forms will be accepted.</li> </ul>          |
| <b>Essay (nonfiction)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum length: 750 words</li> <li>Any nonfiction form is eligible.</li> </ul>  | <b>Essay (nonfiction)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum length: 1000 words</li> <li>Any nonfiction form is eligible.</li> </ul>  |

## GENERAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- **Submissions must be TYPED and double-spaced, saved in a MS Word (.doc) or .rtf file.**
- Individual (**ONE**) Entry Form must be used per entry. For multiple entries, the first Entry Form received - per category - will be used. A downloadable version of the Entry Form is available at: [www.epicauthors.com/newvoices.html](http://www.epicauthors.com/newvoices.html). A completed Entry Form Packet **MUST BE** submitted **via ELECTRONIC mail (e-mail)** as a **SINGLE attachment** to [newvoices@epicauthors.com](mailto:newvoices@epicauthors.com).
- Each entrant will include short biography and information on his/her knowledge of e-books and/or e-publishing
- In the case of multiple author entries, a **PRIMARY** contact will be listed on the entry form. This entry will be considered as ONE author and judged accordingly.
- **Deadline for entries is MIDNIGHT (Central Standard Time, North America), November 1, 2007.**
- **EPIC reserves the right to cancel a category** if, at the sole discretion of the judges, there are not enough entries to merit judging.
- **PRINT OFF EPIC NEW VOICES PERMISSION FORM.** A completed Permission Form (stating the name, age, grade, contact information, and school of each entrant, including the signatures of the entrant **AND** a parent or guardian) **must accompany each entry.** **ONLY signed Permission Forms may be submitted by fax or postal mail.** Any entries received **without a completed AND signed Permission Form will not be considered as valid entries.**
- Contest entry grants a one-time, non-exclusive print and electronic right for EPIC to publish the entrant's submission, biography, and e-book knowledge in the 2008 New Voices Anthology and on the EPIC Website. Entrants retain the copyright to their individual work.

**Entry Forms must be typed and submitted electronically.** An RTF version of the EPIC Entry Form is available at [www.epicauthors.com/newvoices.html](http://www.epicauthors.com/newvoices.html) and must be submitted to: [newvoices@epicauthors.com](mailto:newvoices@epicauthors.com).

## PRIZES

- **Winners will be notified by February 2008** and will receive their prizes at a luncheon ceremony during the **EPIC conference in Portland, Oregon, March 6-9, 2008.** Winners are invited to attend the conference events **with parental permission AND adult supervision** and are responsible for their own travel, hotel, food, and other expenses. **Winners who do not attend the awards ceremony will receive their prizes via U.S. mail after the EPIC 2008 Conference.** EPIC will use care in sending prizes but cannot be held responsible for any lost during delivery.
- **The grand-prize winner** will be selected by the judges, from among the first-prize winners in the three categories, and will receive \$100 cash.
- The **first-prize winner in each category** will receive an e-Book reader.
- The **second-prize winner in each category** will receive a \$50 gift certificate for e-books.
- The **third-prize winner in each category** will receive a \$25 gift certificate for e-books.
- **Honorable Mention prizes** (two from each category) will be awarded at the discretion of the judges. Honorable Mention winners will receive Accomplishment of Merit Certificates.
- **Judges' Choice Awards** may also be given. Judges' Choice Award winners will receive certificates.
- **Winning entries, Honorable Mentions, and Judges' Choice winners** will receive **a copy of the anthology on CD.** A copy of both the CD anthology and print version will be donated to each winner's school library.
- **In the case of multiple authors,** the entry will be considered as **ONE** author and judged accordingly.
- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each category (Middle School Short Story, Poetry, and/or Essay - or - High School Short Story, Poetry, and/or Essay), Honorable Mentions, and Judges' Choice winners will be published in the e-book anthology *EPIC New Voices 2008*.
- The anthology will be available for download on the EPIC website ([www.epicauthors.com/newvoices.html](http://www.epicauthors.com/newvoices.html)) at no charge. **Additional print copies will be available for purchase after the annual EPIC Conference.**