



Council for Wisconsin Writers, Inc.
Promoting Awareness of Wisconsin's Writers Since 1964

2015 Wisconsin Writers Awards Contest Rules and Entry Form

Each year the Council for Wisconsin Writers offers competitive awards for work published in that year by residents of the state. There are **8 categories for 2015**, 7 of them judged by a writing professional who resides outside the state, and a student essay contest judged by the CWW Board. A prize of **\$500 and a 1-week residency at Shake Rag Alley Center for the Arts** will be given to winners in categories 1-7. The Essay Award for Young Writers winner receives **\$250**. Judges may only designate **up to one** honorable mention in their category, or may decide to make no award. Honorable Mentions receive **\$50**. CWW owns no rights to submitted works.

A completed entry form, or a photocopy of it, **must** accompany each entry with the appropriate fee, except for **Categories 7 and 8**, for which you **must** use the Lorine Niedecker Poetry Award Entry Form and the Student Contest Entry Form, respectively. Entries must be postmarked no later than **February 1, 2016**. Notification letters will be sent by **April 15, 2016** (if SASE is provided). Awards will be presented at the Council's annual banquet in May 2016. All winners attend as guests of the Council.



Council for Wisconsin Writers, Inc.

Contest Rules

Who May Submit:

Anyone may submit a work written by a Wisconsin resident. A resident is defined as a person who maintains a permanent residence in Wisconsin or who has had at least six months of continuous residence in the state during the contest year. Authors or submitting persons need not be members of CWW.

What May Be Submitted:

- All submissions for **categories 1 through 6** must be published works. These works may be traditionally published or self-published by the author either in print or electronic form. Work published on a personal blog or personal Web site is not acceptable.
- In category 7, the **Lorine Niedecker Poetry Award**, at least two of the submitted poems must be published in independently reviewed print or online publications (see the separate Niedecker [guidelines](#)).
- In category 8, the **Essay Award for Young Writers**, entries may be unpublished or published in student newspapers, journals, or magazines. Professionally published work will not be accepted (see separate [guidelines](#)).
- Translations, reprints, and/or works for which the submitter is the editor rather than the author are not eligible.
- Entries must have been published in the contest year. The publication date, not the copyright date, determines eligibility. (A work is published when it first appears in print and is made available to the public.)
- Multiple entries may not be submitted in any one category; however, authors may submit to one additional category.
- A winner may not submit in the same category two years in succession.
- Book-length works are not eligible for the Niedecker, Gale, or Levin awards.
- Radio essays and Internet videos are not accepted at this time.
- **Only** works of **48 pages or more of poetry** are eligible for the Meudt Book-Length Poetry Award.
- Recipients of the Major Achievement Award may not receive another award in that year.

How a Work May be Submitted:

- Book-length entries must be submitted in their published form. For shorter entries, tear sheets or good quality photocopies may be used. Hard copies of Web-published entries are required.
- Electronic books (e-books): the author must provide a digital version of the book by creating a PDF and saving it to a CD. Submit the CD only. Do not submit printed versions of electronic books.

- **No email entries will be accepted except for the Essay Award for Young Writers.**
- An entry form and fee must accompany each submission. Entry forms may be photocopied.
- Entries must be postmarked no later than **February 1, 2016**. Extra time may be allowed for work not published until the end of December, if the appropriate awards co-chair is notified by December 31, 2015.
- A **\$25 per entry nonrefundable fee** (CWW **members** may enter one contest for free per year; \$25 fee for other entries) must accompany **each entry** except the Essay Award (no entry fee). Make checks payable to **Council for Wisconsin Writers, Inc.**
- Entries not in conformity with the stated rules will be disqualified; entry fees will be forfeited.
- Judges will be asked to **NOT** consider entries from relatives, friends, and entrants with whom they have personal or professional relationships. Entries and fees disqualified on these grounds will not be returned to the entrants. Notification of disqualification will not be made.

Requirements for Winning Entries:

Winners will be invited to attend the spring awards banquet as the Council's guests. Checks and certificates will be awarded at the banquet and winners will have a brief opportunity to speak. Note: Any residencies awarded as prizes are not transferable.

Winners may designate someone to accept the award on their behalf as well as to read a short excerpt from the winning piece.

Lorine Niedecker Poetry Award, Category 7:

This award, named for Wisconsin's pre-eminent poet of the twentieth century, is sponsored and funded by the Council for Wisconsin Writers. A prize of **\$500** will be given for a group of shorter poems, which, taken singly or together, represent a significant achievement commensurate with the quality of Niedecker's work. You must use the special entry form provided for this award:

Lorine Niedecker Poetry Award Entry Form

Essay Award for Young Writers, Category 8:

The Essay Award for Young Writers recognizes Wisconsin high school students who excel at the craft of writing nonfiction literature. Any Wisconsin high school student may enter the contest by submitting a piece of writing according to the guidelines below. There is **no entry fee** for this contest and **entries may be submitted via email**. All entries will be read and judged anonymously by the CWW Board of Directors. The judges will select one winner and one honorable mention. The winner receives **\$250**. Winners, honorable mentions, and their sponsoring teachers (if applicable) are invited to attend the CWW Awards Luncheon as our guests.

Essay Award for Young Writers Entry Form



Council for Wisconsin Writers, Inc.

Contest Entry Form

Circle the appropriate Award category and enter the required information in the space below. Use the back of the form if needed to list titles.

All entries must have been published between **January 1 and December 31** of the contest year.

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|---|---|
| 1. Zona Gale Short Fiction Award | 5. Norbert Blei/August Derleth Book-Length Nonfiction Award |
| 2. Edna Meudt Book-Length Poetry Award | 6. Edna Ferber Book-Length Fiction Award |
| 3. Kay W. Levin Short Nonfiction Award | 7. Lorine Niedecker Poetry Award (Use the Special Instructions) |
| 4. Tofte/Wright Children's Literature Award | 8. Essay Award for Young Writers (Use the Special Instructions) |

Author's Name: _____

Category #: _____

Title of Work: _____

Publisher or Publication: _____

Date of Publication: _____

Author's Address:

Street Address, City, and Zip Code

Author's Phone Number: _____ **Author's Email Address:** _____

Entry Submitted by Second Party:

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Email: _____

Address:

- \$25 Entry Fee to Council for Wisconsin Writers enclosed**
(Current CWW members may enter one contest free; \$25 for additional contests.)

To enter the competition, send (via US Mail only, please):

1. One copy of the **published work**. If Web-published, you must submit a hard copy with all pertinent publication information included. **Do not include reviews or publicity materials. Entries cannot be returned.**
2. This completed **entry form**. The entry form **must** accompany each entry—photocopies acceptable.
3. Nonrefundable entry fee of **\$25 per entry** (CWW members may enter one contest for free per year; \$25 fee for other entries). Make checks payable to **Council for Wisconsin Writers, Inc.**
4. A stamped, self-addressed business-size envelope (**SASE**), if you wish to be notified of contest results.

CATEGORY #	CONTEST NAME	MAIL to CONTEST CO-CHAIR
1	Zona Gale Short Fiction	Edward Schultz CWW Category #1 47726 Aspen Rd. Soldiers Grove, WI 54655
4	Tofte/Wright Children’s Literature	Jennifer Morales CWW Category #4 E8002 Green Acres Rd., Lot 419 Viroqua, WI 54665
2, 3, 5, 6 & 7 (Indicate category # on envelope)	Edna Meudt Book-Length Poetry Kay W. Levin Short Nonfiction Norbert Blei/August Derleth Book-Length Nonfiction Edna Ferber Book-Length Fiction Lorine Niedecker Poetry	Karla Huston CWW Category #__ 1830 W. Glendale Ave. Appleton, WI 54914
8	Essay Award for Young Writers	Geoff Gilpin CWW Category #8 6973 Heron Way De Forest, WI 53532

Categories 7 and 8 require separate entry forms. See above and the CWW Web site.