



Council for Wisconsin Writers, Inc.

Promoting Awareness of Wisconsin's Writers Since 1964

2021 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 2021**, 7 of them judged by writing professionals who reside outside the state, and a student contest judged by the CWW Board. A prize of **\$500 and a 1-week residency to Shake Rag Alley Center for the Arts** will be given to each winner in categories 1-7. The Young Writers Award winner receives **\$250**. Judges may designate one honorable mention in their category or may decide to make no award. Honorable Mentions receive **\$50** and, in categories 1-7, a one-week residency at the Painted Forest in Valton, WI. 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 Young Writers Award entry form, respectively. Contest submissions will be accepted beginning **November 1st**. Entries must be postmarked no later than **January 31, 2022**. Notification will be made via email by **April 15, 2022**. Awards will be presented at the Council's annual banquet in May 2021. All winners attend as guests of the Council.

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 website is not accepted.
- 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 [guide-lines](#)).
- In category 8, the **Young Writers Award**, entries may be unpublished or published in student newspapers, journals, or magazines.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. **What May Be Submitted (continued):**
- **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 Young Writers Award.**
- An entry form and fee must accompany each submission. Entry forms may be photocopied.
- Entries must be postmarked no later than **January 31, 2022.**
- A **\$25 per entry nonrefundable fee** must accompany **each entry** except the Essay Award (no entry fee). Make checks payable to **Council for Wisconsin Writers, Inc.**
- Entries not conforming to 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 reception as the Council's guests. Checks and certificates will be awarded at the reception and winners will have an opportunity to read.

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. Please use the special entry form provided for this award:

[Lorine Niedecker Poetry Award Entry Form](#)

Young Writers Award, Category 8:

The Young Writers Award recognizes Wisconsin high school students who excel at creative writing. 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** and the honorable mention **\$50**. Winners, honorable mentions, and their sponsoring teachers (if applicable) are invited to attend the CWW Awards Luncheon as our guests.

[Young Writers Award 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.

Author's Name: _____ **Category #:** _____

Title: _____

Publisher/Publication: _____ **Publication Date:** _____

Author Address: _____
Street City, State Zip

Phone: () _____ **Email:** _____

Entry Submitted by Second Party:

Name: _____ **Phone:** () _____ **Email:** _____

Address: _____

\$25 Entry Fee to Council for Wisconsin Writers enclosed or

CWW Members-only complimentary contest entry

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

- 1.** One copy of the **published work**. If web-published, 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**. Make checks payable to **Council for Wisconsin Writers, Inc.** Current CWW members receive one free contest entry. Please indicate if you are a member.
- 4.** All notifications will be made by email.

<p>Categories 1 & 7 1- Zona Gale Short Fiction 7- Lorine Niedecker Poetry Award mail to:</p>	<p>Category 2 Edna Meudt Poetry Book mail to:</p>
<p>Nathan J. Reid CWW Category #____ 402 River Bend Road Apt. 6 Madison, WI 53713 Questions: nreid42@gmail.com</p>	<p>Matt Guenette CWW Category #2 4813 Leo Drive Madison, WI 53716 Questions: mcguenette@gmail.com</p>
<p>Category 3 Kay W. Levin Short Nonfiction mail to:</p>	<p>Categories 4 & 5 4- Blei/Derleth 5-Tofte/Wright mail to:</p>
<p>Sylvia Cavanaugh 210 N. Main Street # 204 Cedar Grove, WI 53013 sylvia@sylviacavanaugh.com</p>	<p>Jerrienne Hayslett CWW Category #____ 320 Parkway Drive South Milwaukee, WI 53172</p>
<p>Category 6 Edna Ferber Fiction Book mail to:</p>	<p>Category 8 Young Writers Award mail to:</p>
<p>Sylvia Cavanaugh 210 N. Main Street # 204 Cedar Grove, WI 53013 sylvia@sylviacavanaugh.com</p>	<p>Ron Czerwien 1029 Spaight Street D-3 Madison, WI 53703 ronczerwien@gmail.com</p>

Categories 7 and 8 require separate entry forms. See above and the [CWW Web site](#).