

## Ninth Annual



## Young Writers & Illustrators Contest

### Word Count

- Kindergarten & First grade stories must contain a minimum of 50- maximum of 200 words
- Second & Third grade stories must contain a minimum of 100- maximum of 350 words
- The word count includes “a,” “an,” & “the,” but not the words on non-story pages such as the title page.

### Story Text

- Text must be printed legibly (or typed)
- Children who cannot write may dictate their story to an adult.
- Text may be integrated into the illustration pages or on individual pages
- Non English text must be translated on the same page and the translation text must adhere to word count
- Invented spelling is acceptable

### Format & Illustrations

- Stories must be created on one side of paper and numbered on back of each page in lower right corner
- Stories must have at least 5 original, clear & colorful illustrations

### Official Entry Form

- Entry form must be complete, legible, and must include parent (& teacher, if appropriate) signature

## Entry Form

Each entry must include the official *Reading Rainbow Young Writers & Illustrators* Entry Form, with the required signature of a parent/guardian (and, if appropriate, the signature of the sponsoring teacher), confirming that the story & art are original, and granting permission to use the entry for promotional purposes.

## National Judging, Awards & Notification

Entries will be judged on originality, creative expression, storytelling and integration of copy and illustrations. Preliminary judging will take place through the sponsoring PBS station which will send its first place winners to the National Contest. The National judges will include, but not be limited to, children’s book authors, illustrators, publishers and educators — as well as representatives of organizations such as the American Library Association, National Council of Teachers of English, etc. Decisions of the judges are final.

National Grand Prize winners will receive a computer and printer, and National Second Place winners will receive a DVD player. Each Grand, Second, & Third Place National winner will also receive a personal *Reading Rainbow* Library set of 10 DVDs and books. In addition, their schools and public libraries will each receive a similar *Reading Rainbow* Library. (*Reading Rainbow* reserves the right to substitute prizes of comparable value for all prizes.)

## Return of Entries

The Contest administrators will make every effort, but are not required, to return entries only if accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope of an *appropriate* size. *Reading Rainbow* or local stations are not responsible for late, lost, stolen, misdirected, damaged, mutilated, incomplete or illegible entries, or postage-due mail.

## Rights Associated with Contest

Winners grant to *Reading Rainbow* the right to use their names and likenesses in advertising and promotion without further compensation or permission, except where prohibited by law. All national entries, and any copyrights therein, become the sole property of *Reading Rainbow* and GPN/WNED. By entering, entrants agree to abide by the above stated rules, and warrant that their entry is their original work and does not infringe upon or violate rights of any third party, and grant to *Reading Rainbow* (GPN/WNED) the right to edit, publish, promote, and otherwise use their entry materials without permission, notice or compensation.

No royalties will be paid at this or any time.

## Eligibility

The *Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators Contest* is open to children in Kindergarten, First, Second and Third Grades. Each grade level will be judged separately.

Children of employees of *Reading Rainbow*, GPN, Nebraska ETV Network, WNED-TV, Lancit Media, the Public Broadcasting System and Public Broadcasting Stations are not eligible.

## Entry Guidelines

Entrants must be in Kindergarten, First, Second or Third grade.

Only one entry per person will be accepted.

Only single author stories qualify (no co-authored stories).

Stories can be fact or fiction, prose or poetry.