

## 2021 Young Writers & Illustrators Contest Rules

**NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN.** The Young Writers & Illustrators Contest is produced by West TN PBS (the “Contest” or “Promotion”) and based on the Reading Rainbow® Young Writers and Illustrators Contest, a concept developed by WNED. The Contest begins on January 1, 2021 and concludes March 31, 2021. This Contest consists of one round of judging, which will take place in April 2021. To enter the contest, mail your entry to: West TN PBS, P.O. Box 966, Martin, TN 38237.

**All entries must be postmarked no later than March 31, 2021 to be eligible.**

These contest rules are subject to modification by West TN PBS at its discretion. This contest is void where prohibited.

### Eligibility & Entry Guidelines

- Entrants must be children in kindergarten, first, second, third, fourth or fifth grade.
- Children of employees of PBS, PBS stations or their affiliates, sales representatives, subsidiaries or parent companies, advertising/sales promotion agencies, and judges are not eligible.
- 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).
- **Story must be on 8.5” x 11” paper.**
- Stories can be fact or fiction, and prose or poetry.
- Any failure to adhere to these contest rules may result in disqualification from the contest.
- No purchase is necessary.

### 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.
- Fourth and fifth grade stories must have a minimum of 100 words and a maximum of 500 words.
- The word count includes “a,” “an,” and “the” but not the words on non-story pages such as the title page or those that enhance the illustrations.
- Text must be printed or 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 text) must adhere to word count.
- Invented or inventive spelling is accepted.

### Format & Illustrations

- Stories must have at least five (5) original, clear and colorful illustrations.
- Original art can include drawings, collages, and 3-D created by the author or photographs taken by the author.
- Art cannot exceed the paper size of 8.5” x 11”
- Stories submitted by mail must be created on one side of the paper and numbered on the back of each page.

### Official Entry Form

- Each entry must include the official West TN PBS Young Writers & Illustrators Contest Entry Form, with the required signature of a parent/guardian (and, if appropriate, the optional signature of the sponsoring teacher), consenting to allowing their child/ward to enter the contest, confirming that the story and art are original, and granting certain rights to the entry materials.
- The entry form must be complete and legible to be eligible.

### Judging, Awards & Notification

All entries submitted in the local judging round of the contest will be judged using the judging criteria and percentages below by a panel of judges chosen by West TN PBS. The entry with the highest percentage in each grade will be deemed the grand prize winner for that grade. The judging criteria and percentages used by any judging in connection with the local judging round of the contest shall be scored and graded using a rubric based on the following criteria as follows:

- 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. For the judging round of the contest, winners will be as follows: (1) the entry with the highest score from among all eligible entries received per grade will be deemed the First Place winners; (2) the entry the second to the highest score from among all eligible entries received per grade will be deemed the Second Place winners. In the event of a tie for the judging, the entry with the

highest score in the creativity and originality category from among all tying entries will be deemed the winner from among all tying entries. Winners will be notified the week of April 19, 2021.

Winners and their families will be invited to a special reception /or virtual engagement in May 2021 where the winners will be taped reading their stories for West TN PBS.

### Prizes

- **Six (6) First Place Winners** (One (1) First Place winner per grade): A gift card to Wal-Mart, arts and crafts supplies, books and other prize packs provided by local sponsors.
- **Six (6) Second Place Winners** (One (1) Second Place winner per grade): A gift card to Wal-Mart, arts and crafts supplies, books and other prize packs provided by local sponsors.
- **First place winners (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades):** An annual membership pass to Discovery Park of America (Union City) provided by Discovery Park of America.
- **Second place winners (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades):** An annual membership pass to Discovery Park of America (Union City) provided by Discovery Park of America.
- **Teachers of First place winners (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades):** \$100 scholarship for field trip to Discovery Park of America, Union City.
- **Teachers of Second place winners (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades):** \$50 scholarship for field trip to Discovery Park of America, Union City.
- **The Teacher of the classroom, each grade level, submitting the most qualified entries** into the contest will receive a gift card.

West TN PBS reserves the right to substitute any prize for a prize of equal or greater value, at the sole discretion of West TN PBS. Prizes are not redeemable for cash, non-transferable, and non-substitutable, except at the sole discretion of Sponsor.

### Return of Entries

The contest administrators at West TN PBS will make every effort, but are not required, to return entries only if accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope of an *appropriate* size. West TN 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 West TN PBS to use the participants' 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. By entering, entrants' parent/legal guardian agree 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 West TN 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 or any time.

By submitting an entry and entry form, each participant's parent/legal guardian, on behalf of the participant, agrees to assign all right, title, and interest in and to the entry and entry form to West TN 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 or guardian) agrees to cooperate with West TN 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 West TN 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.

West TN PBS reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to terminate, suspend or otherwise cancel the contest at any time. Income and all other taxes are the responsibility of the prize recipient. West TN PBS is not responsible for any expenses incurred in connection with participation in the Contest.

**Privacy:** Unless otherwise specified, any and all information connected in connection with this contest will be used solely for the purpose of administering the contest. Please note: If you circled "Yes" on the entry form to opt-in to receive the optional promotional materials from West TN PBS, your contact information contained in the entry form will be used to fulfill the offers.

**Sponsor:** West TN PBS

**Partnership:** Discovery Park of America, Union City, TN.





# West TN PBS Young Writers & Illustrators Contest Entry Form (4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)

Sponsored by West TN PBS in Partnership with Discovery Park of America

Type or print CLEARLY

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Circle Grade: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Sex: F M

Title of Story \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Words \_\_\_\_\_ Word count range: minimum 100, maximum 500

Number of Illustrations \_\_\_\_\_ (minimum of 5)

Only one entry per child • Only single author stories (no co-authors) • Story must be original work of the child • **Story must be on 8.5" x 11" paper** • Original art can include drawings, collages, 3-D and photos taken by the author and cannot exceed paper • Art Story may be fact or fiction, prose or poetry • Use only one side of the paper • Number each page on the back • Text must be printed/written legibly or typed • Children who can't write may dictate their story to be printed or typed • Invented or inventive spelling is accepted • Story text may be on pages with illustrations or on separate pages • Non-English text must be translated into English text on the same page and the translated English text must adhere to the word count • Word count includes "a" "an" "the" but not words on nonstory pages (e.g. title page) or those that enhance illustrations.

*I acknowledge that I have read the contest rules & regulations prior to signing this and that I understand the rules:*

**Required for All Entries:**

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

**Required for School-Related Entries:**

Teacher Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

School name \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MARCH 31, 2021 and, WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED IN LATE APRIL, 2021.**

**Mail stories with entry form to:**

West TN PBS – Writers Contest  
P.O. Box 966, Martin, TN 38237

**For additional information:**

Jennifer Medford  
[mece@westtnpbs.org](mailto:mece@westtnpbs.org)  
West TN PBS  
Manager of Education & Community Engagement

**Stories will not be returned without a postage paid envelope.**