



**Note: This was the original FAQ for 2020. Many parts were changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic**

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is Tournament of Writers?**

A Writer's Contest for all ages living in Kalamazoo and St. Joseph County, a program of the Vicksburg Cultural Arts Center.

### **Start and end dates for submission?**

Wednesday, April 1, 2020 through Monday, June 15

### **Age Divisions?**

- Junior (through 8th grade)
- Young Adult (9th grade through 25 years old)
- Adult (26 through 50 years old)
- Seniors (51+)

### **Categories?**

- Fiction - short story, fiction, something made up
- Non-fiction - memoir, something based in truth
- Poetry - any style
- Graphic Novel - No age division
- Screenplay - No age division
- One-Act Play - No age division

### **Maximum Word Count?**

- Fiction and Non-fiction 2,500
- Poetry 2,000
- Graphic Novel 30 pages
- Screenplay and One-Act Play (if produced) 10 minutes

### **What are the awards?**

- First Prize - \$25 each division/category winner
- Second Prize - \$10 each division/category winner
- Judges' Choice - \$100 one winner

### **How many times can I enter?**

- One per category for a total of six entries

### **What will you accept?**

- Legible, handwritten entries
- Typed entries
- Electronic entries composed on keyboard or device

**How do you judge my work?**

Judges use rubric scoring methodology to evaluate works. These rubric scoring sheets can be found on the website at [www.vicksburgarts.com](http://www.vicksburgarts.com)

**How do I submit my work?**

Make sure to include name and age of author and category. If under 18, include parent or guardian name. Also include and contact information (phone and email)

- Email to [tow@vicksburgarts.com](mailto:tow@vicksburgarts.com)
- OR Mail to VCAC, PO Box 209, Vicksburg, MI 49097

**Who owns my entry?**

You own your written works. The Vicksburg Cultural Arts Center reserves first publication rights only.

**When will winners be announced and published?**

- Wednesday, July 15, 5:30 pm. Facebook live. If determined that it's safe for public gathering, will also be at the Vicksburg Cultural Arts Center.
- Posted at the VCAC, on-line at [vicksburgarts.com](http://vicksburgarts.com) and on Vicksburg Arts Facebook page.
- Judges Choice, selected from all first, second and third place winners will be announced at the Book Release and Signing Celebration.
- All accepted entries will be published in *Small Town Anthology VI* and available around September 2020.

**Book Release & Signing Celebration?**

- What: A celebration with Tournament participants, their families and friends and the community
- When: Tuesday, September 15 5:30 to 8:30 pm
- Where: R & R Weddings and Events, 343 West Prairie, Vicksburg
- Appetizers and beverages available
- Tournament Participants receive complimentary copy of *Small Town Anthology VI*, additional copies available for purchase
- Tournament Winners will have opportunity to read works out loud
- The evening ends with a book signing by all Tournament writers

For more information, contact the VCAC at:  
[info@vicksburgarts.com](mailto:info@vicksburgarts.com)  
(269)200-2223

