



NORTH SHORE WRITERS' ASSOCIATION
30th ANNUAL WRITING CONTEST SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Opens: JANUARY 15th 2026

Deadline for Submissions: MARCH 15th 2026 11:59 PM

Entries for Canadian residents only. Send e-mail entries as attachments to:

nswacontest2026@gmail.com

Original Material

- Only unpublished, original entries will be accepted.
- Pieces published anywhere online (including websites/blogs), in print, or awarded prizes in other contests will not be accepted.
- Submissions must not be generated or enhanced by AI, Chat GPT or any other generative AI tool. Violation of this entrance requirement will result in disqualification.

Genres and Word Count

1. Fiction Maximum 2,000 words
2. Non-Fiction Maximum 2,000 words
3. Poetry Maximum 2,000 words (one or two poems constitute one entry)
4. Young Writers 11yrs and under; 12–18-year-olds
For young writers: Two age categories. Any genre accepted but only one submission per entrant. Word count as above.

Entrants may submit only ONE submission per genre

Entrance Fees

NSWA members: \$10 per entry

Non-members: \$15 per entry

Writers 25 and under: \$5 per entry (current members are entitled to one free entry; non-members receive a free one-year membership with \$5 entry)

Payment

Payment can be made by e-transfer to nswriterstreasurer@gmail.com (no security question).

Please note: email address for payment is not the same as the one for entries. Cheques are not accepted.

Prizes

Fiction 1st prize \$100, 2nd prize \$75, 3rd prize \$50

Non-Fiction 1st prize \$100, 2nd prize \$75, 3rd prize \$50

Poetry 1st prize \$100, 2nd prize \$75, 3rd prize \$50

Young Writers One prize of \$75 in each category (11 yrs and under; 12–18 yrs)

Winner Announcements

Winners will be announced in April during North Shore Writers Festival and posted on the NSWA website. All winning entries will be published in *Rivulets*, the NSWA online magazine.

Anonymous Judging in Effect

Entrant information must not appear on any page of any entry. Personal information will be included only in the covering email.

Entrant Information

Please include the following information in the body of the email with your submission. Each submission must be in a separate email (if submitting more than one genre).

- a) Name
- b) Email
- c) Mailing address
- d) Phone number
- e) Category (Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry or Young Writers) and Title of entry
- e) Age: 11 and under; 12-18; 19-25; 26+
- f) NSWA Status: Member or Non-Member. *Non-member writers 25 and under, indicate if you want a free 1 year NSWA membership with your submission.*
- g) Payment: amount paid by etransfer
- h) Name of person paying (if different from name of entrant)

Simultaneous entries accepted. Kindly withdraw your piece if accepted elsewhere.

Format of Entries

Entries must be made by e-mail as attachments to [**nswacontest2026@gmail.com**](mailto:nswacontest2026@gmail.com).

- Each entry must be in a separate document (with the exception of poetry if two poems are submitted as one entry – in this case, please begin each poem on a separate page)
- Letter sized (8 ½" x 11") with 1" margins on all sides
- Double spaced (single-spacing may be used for poetry)
- Times New Roman type face, 12 pt. type size
- Entries in PDF or Word format only
- **Each page to have title and page number only to ensure blind judging**
- Include the word count at the bottom of last page

***Entries that fail to adhere to these requirements will be rejected
and no refund given.***