



Writing Through Art Literary Competition Contest Rules

The purpose of the **Writing Through Art Literary Competition** is to encourage students to develop enthusiasm for and expertise in their writing using works of art from the Museum's collection as inspiration, to provide a context to celebrate their writing successes, and to recognize student achievement in arts and academics. The competition is sponsored by Booth Western Art Museum.

Who can enter?

The competition is open to students in grades 9 – 12 in Georgia, public or private schools, and students who are home-schooled in grades 9 – 12.

What to Write?

Students may enter short stories, essays, narrative poetry and/or Cowboy poetry.

Entries must be the result of a required writing assignment based on selected works of art from Booth Museum's collection. Each entry must be submitted to a teacher for a grade. Images and lesson plans are available by grade level on the Museum's website, www.boothmuseum.org.

The artwork can also be seen in person at the Museum. Discounted students admission is available during all public hours; admission to the museum is free on the first Thursday of each month beginning at 4:00 pm.

Note: Students entering work in the Cowboy poetry category do not have to use one of the selected images for their work.

Classroom Support

The Booth Museum is aware of a limited number of published authors and Cowboy Poets willing to visit your classroom and work with students. **We can arrange for a Cowboy Poet to visit your classroom either in person or through our virtual Zoom room [no special equipment needed- just a computer with a wired internet connection, webcam and microphone (built-in mic is fine)].** Both options provide real-time interaction with the Cowboy Poet (the Zoom room is live, two-way audio and video).

How many entries can be submitted per school?

The contest coordinator at each school or home-school group can submit up to twelve entries per genre to the Booth Museum.

Example: 12 essays, 12 short stories, 12 narrative poems and 12 cowboy poems*

General Rules:

1. Entries must be prepared using the following guidelines:

- a. Students may enter 1 entry per genre
- b. Students should keep a copy of the work for their records
- c. Students should submit a complete entry form with signatures of the parent/guardian and the student for each entry
- d. Students should submit a MLA style cover sheet for each entry

- e. Students should submit their original work*
- f. Please paperclip the pages together (no staples please)
- g. Narrative poetry 4 – 50 lines, short stories and essays 1000 word maximum, Cowboy poetry 50 line maximum
- h. Please use a 12 point font and double space
- i. Unsigned or incomplete forms will cause the entry to be disqualified
- j. Entries must be submitted to the Booth Museum by December 9, 2016.
- k. Entries will not be returned

****Please note that the category of Cowboy Poetry requires online submission of a video in addition to the written poem***

How to Enter?

For categories of short stories, essays, narrative poetry:

Students should submit their entries and entry forms to their teacher. The teacher should evaluate the work on grammar, mechanics, creativity and adherence to contest rules. The best submissions should advance to a school-level competition. The person who coordinates the school-level or home-school competition should submit winning entries to:

1. Patty Dees @ pattyd@boothmuseum.org or mail to: Writing Through Art Literary Competition, Booth Western Art Museum c/o Patty Dees, PO Box 3070 Cartersville, GA 30120

For category of Cowboy Poetry:

Rules for the video recording:

1. Students should submit their written poems and entry forms to their teacher.
2. Students should schedule a time with the teacher to record the recitation. Another student may record the recitation, but a teacher must be present the entire time.
3. The teacher is required to introduce the student and title of the poem at the beginning of the recording with the student standing beside him/her. After the introduction, the teacher should exit the video so that the focus is on the student (full body shot or waist up—**do not stand too far away when recording or you may not be able to hear the poem clearly**).
4. The student should then deliver the recitation of the poem from start to finish (see examples here <http://boothmuseum.org/cowboy-poetry/>) with no pausing or stopping of the video. If the video is paused, stopped, or manipulated in any way, the entry will be disqualified.
5. Students should submit entries via MPEG through DropBox, or upload to either YouTube or Vimeo.com (free accounts available for both) and provide the link to the video on their entry form.
6. **The person who coordinates the school-level or home-school competition should submit the signed entry form with written poem AND link to video of recitation of the poem to:**

Patty Dees @ pattyd@boothmuseum.org or mail to: Writing Through Art Literary Competition, Booth Western Art Museum c/o Patty Dees, PO Box 3070 Cartersville, GA 30120

7. A panel of judges will be assigned to review videos and select the top three entries.
8. Winner winners will be invited to recite their from memory poem at the Museum's Cowboy Gathering on **Saturday, March 11, 2017** and will be Symposium and presented with their s\$250 check.
9. **PLEASE NOTE: Both the written poem and video link to the recorded recitation must be received by December 9, 2016.**

Incentives and rewards:

Teacher incentives: Teachers of students who have entries submitted to the competition will receive 2 passes to Booth Museum. Teachers who have a finalist selected will receive a \$25 VISA gift card.

Student incentives: Eight finalists will be selected in each of the 4 divisions; short story, essays, poetry and cowboy poetry with cash prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners and honorable mention certificates for the other finalists.

Cash prizes for short stories, essays and poetry: \$150 for 1st place, \$100 for 2nd place and \$50 for 3rd place.

Cash prizes for cowboy poetry: \$250 for 1st place, \$200 for 2nd place, and \$150 for 3rd place.

Note: Finalists in the Cowboy poetry division will be invited to recite their poems from memory at the Museum's annual Cowboy Gathering on **Saturday, March 11, 2017**. The additional effort in memorizing and presenting the poem publically is the reason for the higher amount of prize money. Both teachers and students will be recognized at an awards program at their school and in a press release to their local newspaper.

Publication:

Students' work will be published in the Museum's on-line anthology on the website and posted to the Museum's Vimeo Channel.

Students' work will be published in their school literary magazine at the discretion of their teacher.

Please e-mail questions to:

pattyd@boothmuseum.org or dianep@boothmuseum.org