

YOUNG GEORGIA AUTHORS

WRITING COMPETITION

2017-2018

OFFICIAL RULES BOOKLET

Contact:

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ABOUT THE YOUNG GEORGIA AUTHORS WRITING COMPETITION

The purpose of the Young Georgia Authors (YGA) writing competition is to encourage students to develop enthusiasm for and expertise in their writing, to provide a context to celebrate their writing successes, and to recognize student achievement in arts and academics.

This prestigious competition has been engaging Georgia students for more than two decades and is open to any student currently enrolled in Georgia **public** schools, grades K -12. The competition is sponsored by the Georgia Language Arts Supervisors (GLAS) and the Georgia RESA Network with support from the Georgia Department of Education.

ENTRY OVERVIEW

Writings shall be entered into the state-level competition by winning the tiered levels: (a) local school, (b) district, (c) RESA, and then (d) state. School systems may submit ONE winning entry per grade level (K-12) to the RESA-level competition. RESA-level winners will advance to the state-level competition.

WRITING TYPES

Unlike many writing competitions, YGA does not provide a prompt to which students must respond or provide any other boundaries to their genre choice or creativity beyond a 1900-word maximum length.

Entries may include:

- Short Stories
- Poetry
- Essays/Literary Criticism/Analysis
- Journalism
- Academic/Research Reports
- Personal Narratives
- Any Other Original Student Writing

SELECTION PROCEDURES

1. The writing contest begins with a school-wide competition. Grade-level winners should be sent to the system coordinator by the date determined by your designated District Coordinator.
2. A system-level contest must be held. ONE winning entry per grade from the system contest shall be submitted from a system-level administrator to the RESA ELA Specialist or designee. Multiple entries by grade will be disqualified. Individual entries sent by teachers, students, or schools will not be judged.
3. Winning entries from each system must be received by the RESA District ELA Supervisor no later than **5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 16, 2018**. Entries received after this deadline will not be accepted.
4. Judging will be conducted by an appointed committee of English Language Arts professionals convened by the RESA ELA Specialist for the purpose of selecting a RESA Winner at each grade level. The RESA ELA Specialist should log each district's winner for grade levels K-12, prepare a master list of entries and safeguard the names and identifying school of origin in order to protect the integrity of the judging process. Judges should not have access to other judge's scores, nor will they be aware of the name of the student or school of origin. Once the RESA-level winners have been determined, the RESA ELA Specialist will send the entry form, original entry, and one copy of each grade-level winner with a composite list of the names of the winners to Dr. Amy Fouse, GLAS representative for the YGA Contest, at the following address: 1100 Main Street; Perry, Georgia 31069. **The deadline to receive the list of RESA winners to GLAS is Friday, April 13, 2018**. Entries received after that date will not be judged.
5. State-level winners will be announced on the GaDOE website: <http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/English-Language-Arts-Program.aspx>.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- Q. *The instructions reference the "original" work, but then they talk about making sure that there is certain header information on each page of the original and the copy.*
- A. Original work refers to work that the student created without the help of others. System coordinators are asked to verify that each system winner has the proper heading. This information may be handwritten and must be on each page of the entry.
- Q. *Do we submit all drafts or just the final copy?*
- A. Final copy
- Q. *My students collaborated on a writing project. May I submit multiple names for system consideration?*
- A. YGA is a writing contest for individuals. While we support collaboration in the classroom, only one student per grade level in each school system may advance to the RESA level.

GENERAL RULES

Entries must meet the following guidelines:

1. The entry must include a completed **entry form, including signatures of the student, the parent/guardian, and the designated system level administrator**. Incomplete entry forms will be eliminated from the competition.
2. The original **student work** AND one single-sided **copy** of the original student work must be submitted.
 - a. Each entry must be the student's original work (this includes all edits and revisions) and must be typed (Times, New Roman, size 12, double spaced) or handwritten on 8.5x11 inch paper. Print on one side of the paper only.
 - b. The maximum length of the original student work is 1900 words. Dictated stories cannot be accepted. Do not bind, make a cover for, decorate, laminate, or otherwise alter the original paper on which the entry is written.
 - c. Use paper clips or binder clips. Do not use staples.
 - d. The original student work and the copy must have the name of the student and student's school removed.
 - e. Record the student's initials, grade, and RESA district number at top and center of **each page** of the original and copy in the following manner:

SAMPLE OF TOP OF EACH PAGE OF THE ORIGINAL AND COPY SUBMITTED		
ABC	3 rd	RESA _____
(Student Initials)	(Grade)	(RESA District)

FOR SYSTEM COORDINATORS

1. Ensure each system-level winning entry meets the entry guidelines.
2. Paper clip together the completed and signed entry form, the original work, and the copy for each grade-level winning entry.
3. Use the cover page template provided to list your system-level winning entries.
4. Send all system-level winning entries (original and copy) in the same packet to the designated ELA Specialist in your RESA District in time for it to be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 16, 2018.

FOR RESA ELA SPECIALISTS/COORDINATORS

1. Ensure each RESA-level winning entry meets the entry guidelines.
2. Paper clip together the completed and signed entry form, the original work, and the copy for each grade-level winning entry.
3. Use the cover page template provided to list your RESA-level winning entries.
4. Send all system-level winning entries (entry form, original, and copy) in the same packet to Dr. Amy Fouse (1100 Main Street; Perry, Georgia 31069) in time for it to be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 13, 2018.

YOUNG GEORGIA AUTHORS WRITING COMPETITION 2017-2018 ENTRY FORM

All entries must be **COMPLETE** and **LEGIBLE**.

RESA Number (circle one)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

School System: _____

System Level Administrator Contact: _____
Name and Title/Position

System Level Administrator Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Title of Student Work: _____

Student Name: _____ Grade _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Student Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Student Home Address: _____
Street/P.O. Box City Zip

School Contact (teacher/principal): _____

School: _____ School Phone: _____

REQUIRED SIGNATURES

By signing below, I affirm this writing entry is my own original, unassisted work. I agree to have my work entered into the Young Georgia Authors Writing Competition to represent my grade for my local school system.

Student Signature

Date

*By signing below, I affirm that I give my permission for the work of the above named student author, for whom I am the **parent/guardian**, to be entered into the Young Georgia Authors Writing Competition, and for that work to be shared and/or published by the Georgia Department of Education and/or the Georgia Language Arts Supervisors for non-profit purposes.*

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

*By signing below, I affirm that I am a **system level administrator** and am coordinating the entry of all winning student work from this system for the 2017-2018 Young Georgia Authors Competition. I affirm that the work of the above named student author has been chosen to represent this system for the grade level indicated.*

System Level Administrator Signature

Date

* Unsigned or incomplete forms will cause the attached entry to be disqualified. Attach this completed form to the top of each student entry, along with one photocopy of the entry. Remove the student's name and school from the entry itself. Label the top of each page of the entry with the student's initials, grade level, and RESA number. Please make a copy of the entry before submitting. Entries will not be returned.

**YOUNG GEORGIA AUTHORS WRITING COMPETITION
2017-2018
SYSTEM-LEVEL COVER SHEET FORM**

School System: _____ RESA District # _____

System Administrator Contact: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Note: Ensure each system-level winning entry meets the entry guidelines. Paper clip together the completed and signed entry form, the original work, and the copy for each grade-level winning entry. Include this cover sheet with your system-level winning entries.

GRADE	SCHOOL	STUDENT NAME	TITLE OF WORK
K			
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

Send this form with all system-level winning entries (entry form, original, and copy) in the same packet to the designated RESA ELA Specialist in time for it to be received (not postmarked) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 16, 2018.

Student work will not be returned - Remember to keep copies.

**YOUNG GEORGIA AUTHORS WRITING COMPETITION
2017-2018
RESA-LEVEL COVER SHEET FORM**

RESA Contact: _____ RESA District # _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Note: Ensure each RESA-level winning entry meets the entry guidelines. Paper clip together the completed and signed entry form, the original work, and the copy for each grade-level winning entry. Include this cover sheet with your RESA-level winning entries.

GRADE	SCHOOL	STUDENT NAME	TITLE OF WORK
K			
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

Send this form with all RESA-level winning entries (entry form, original, and copy) in the same packet to Dr. Amy Fouse (1100 Main Street; Perry, Georgia 31069) in time for it to be received (not postmarked) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 13, 2018.

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Sample Rubric

Judge's Name: _____

Entry Number: _____

DOMAIN	SUB-CATEGORY	MAXIMUM PTS.	TOTAL POINTS
<i>IDEAS (40%)</i>	Depth of Development	5	
	Sense of Completeness	5	
	Focus	5	
	Relevance of Detail	5	
<i>ORGANIZATION (20%)</i>	Sequence of Ideas	5	
	Appropriate Structural Development	5	
<i>COHESIVENESS/STYLE (20%)</i>	Voice/Diction/Word Choice/POV	5	
	Smooth Transitions/Logical Flow of Ideas	5	
<i>LANGUAGE (20%)</i>	Clarity of Meaning	5	
	Grammar/Usage	5	
<i>TOTAL POINTS</i>		50	

COMMENTS: _____

