

## NJLA CELEBRATES STUDENT AUTHORS (K-8)

### PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

You inspire and teach your students to become aspiring young authors every day. NJLA would like to support your efforts by providing selected students an opportunity to publish their work in a collection of student writing to appear on the New Jersey Literacy Association (NJLA) website in March 2019.

See below to learn how to participate:

1. **Writing Genre:** Personal Narrative/memoir
2. **Grade levels for entrants:** K to 8
3. **Word count:**
  - K -- up to 50 words
  - 1st and 2nd -- up to 250 words
  - 3rd and 4th -- up to 400 words
  - 5th and 6th -- up to 500 words
  - 7th and 8th -- up to 600 words
4. **Format:**
  - K-2 entries may be handwritten by the child author and may include an illustration(s). Be sure handwriting is legible to be considered.
  - For Grades 3-8, entries must be typed (not handwritten).
5. **Eligibility Guidelines** To be eligible for consideration the following procedures must be followed:
  - Entrants must be a student in grades K through 8.
  - Each teacher can submit up to **five personal narratives by individual student authors**.
  - Only single author pieces will be considered (no co-authors).
  - **Word count and format requirements** must be followed.
6. **Parent Permission**
  - Winning entries will require written parent permission. We recommend that teachers secure verbal permission before submitting.
7. **Selection Criteria**
  - Selection will be done by a panel comprised of NJLA Board members and Rider University Teacher Education students.
  - The work of **five students** will be selected for each grade level.
  - Work selected will be compiled into an electronic document and posted on the NJLA homepage for download.
  - Each piece will be judged holistically according to the following criteria: **compelling content, rich language and use of appropriate conventions**.
  - **Only selected students and teachers will be notified by email by February 28, 2019 and asked to provide parent permission to publish their child's name and work.**
  - **Winners will receive a certificate from NJLA and their work will be included in the NJLA e-document.**
  - Materials submitted will become the property of NJLA and will not be returned. Maintain a copy before submitting.
  - All decisions by NJLA are final.
9. **Submission Process and Timeline**
  - To submit student narratives click the **application button and complete a Google form for each student**.
  - All entries must be submitted by **December 20, 2018**.