

CALLING ALL YOUNG AUTHORS!

District 64 Young Authors Guidelines

Are you an aspiring young author ready to share your work with others? The Young Authors Contest is an **independent, voluntary** at-home project for students interested in writing and publishing their work for others to read. See below for details.

- Maximum of **two authors/illustrators** per manuscript (must be in the same grade & school). Students can only **collaborate on one manuscript.**
- Written piece must be an **original fiction short story**—maximum 20 pages (minimum size 12 font/double spaced), no poetry, no graphic novels, no nonfiction/informational text.
- **Illustrations** may be used to enhance the story.
- Content must be **appropriate** for a peer audience.
- Students must complete their manuscripts **without teacher input/**not completed as a class assignment..
- **Cover Page** must include: Title, author's name, grade level, school, homeroom number and teacher name, optional: illustration.
- K-2 students submit a **handwritten** story. Dictated books may be typed or handwritten by an adult, but the story must remain in the student's own language.
- 3rd - 8th grade students must submit a **typewritten** manuscript.

2023 PUBLICATION OPTIONS

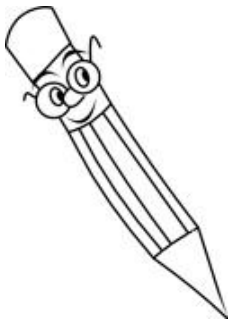


GOOGLE Document or Google Slides: share with coordinator email

- Create and format the document or slides to write your story
- May include illustrations and images to enhance your story

DROP OFF a physical copy (with cover) to your building coordinator.

Important Dates for 2023



December 16, 2022--Guidelines shared via School Newsletters!

Friday, February 24—All manuscripts collected at the buildings.

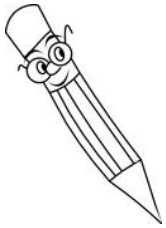
Friday, March 10—Winning building manuscripts (1 per grade level) delivered to district level coordinator.

Friday, April 5—District winners are announced and invited to School Board meeting

Thursday Board Meeting, April or May—D64 School Board Student Recognition.

Please contact your School's **Young Author Coordinator** with any questions.

Carpenter: Ms. Christie Ferraro cferraro@d64.org
Emerson: Ms. Katherine Contreras kcontreras@d64.org
Field: Mrs. Carly Thornton cthornton@d64.org or Mrs. Maryann Geisheker mgeisheker@d64.org
Franklin: Mrs. Natalie Schuetz, nschuetz@d64.org
Lincoln: Ms. Vanessa Dow vdow@d64.org
Roosevelt: Mrs. Taryn Handlon,thandlon@d64.org
Washington: Mrs. Christina Bridich cbridich@d64.org
District: Ms. Meghan Keefer, mkeefer@d64.org



Young Authors Scoring Guidelines

Keep the following guidelines in mind as you write your piece and revise before submission. You will be evaluated on the following:

Ideas

(It is clear what this piece is about; writing fully communicates ideas and shows sustained thought)

- Strong Opening/Closing
- Stays on track
- Story makes sense

Voice

(Writing shows individual expression and/or creativity)

- Strong Sensory Details
- Ideas fully communicated
- Shows Expression/Voice

Organization

(One idea flows logically into the next)

- Strong characters
- Descriptive setting
- Clear problem
- Logical plot events
- Clear resolution
- Length is appropriate to the piece (not too long, not too short)—maximum 20 pages

Conventions

(Writing incorporates taught skills; spelling is developmentally correct)

- Strong Sentence Construction
- No Spelling Errors
- Correct Capitals/Punctuation
- Errors should not interfere with understanding

Sentence Fluency

(Sentences are fluent when read aloud)

- Logical Sequence
- Appropriate Structure
- Strong Transitions

Word Choice

(There is varied and descriptive vocabulary)

- Uses Sentence Variety
- Varied Vocabulary

Presentation

(overall presentation of story; neatness)

Substantial Cover with all pages securely attached

Cover Includes:

- Title
- Name, School, Grade, Home Room #
- Illustration (optional)

OPTIONAL Illustrations:

Artistically designed

Appealing

Thoughtfully Placed

Enhance the Text