



2017
*International
Torrance Legacy
Creativity Writing Awards*

Guidelines for Writers

*We're delighted that you have chosen to share your writing talent with us!
Enjoy the process of participating in this dimension of the Torrance Legacy Awards.
Let your originality and imagination soar!*

1. Your poem may be expressed and crafted in the genre of free verse, blank verse, rhyme, pantoum, or any that you may choose, from haiku to ballad. There are no line or length limitations on your poem.
2. When submitting a story, work to have both an opening and a closing which are as effective as the main body of your tale.
3. Thoroughly proofread and edit your story before submitting it. Work toward applying standard writing conventions such as those for spelling, punctuation, grammar, paragraphing, consistency of verb tenses, etc. Insufficient proofreading or editing often detracts from the creative, core ideas of an otherwise exceptional piece of writing. Dialogue among story characters requires special attention. Standard writing conventions help the reader to understand the ideas in the story!
4. Put your poem or story aside for a few days after writing. Then review it with a fresh eye and edit as needed before submitting it.
5. Think about how your writing could move beyond a literal interpretation of the theme you choose by taking a more figurative approach. Poems can readily include use of the simile, metaphor, or any other expression of figurative language.
6. Give your story entry an original, creative title. Generally speaking, the theme that you choose from the given list, for either a poem or story, should not serve as the title for your entry. Titles are optional for poetry.
7. Students may submit one poem and/or one story.
8. Review the Torrance Legacy Creative Writing Awards Rubrics for Poems and Stories. You may find these rubrics to be helpful resources.

[View Story Rubric](#)

[View Poetry Rubric](#)