



24th Annual Power of the Pen Creative Writing Contest

Presented by
The Hamilton Public Library and The Hamilton Spectator
Submit online at teens.hpl.ca
Call for Entry – Contest Closes September 30th, 2018

Writers of short stories and poetry are encouraged to submit their works to the 24th Annual Power of the Pen Awards. Entrants must be between the ages of 12 and 18 and be a resident of Hamilton or attend a school in Hamilton. Please submit an original short story or poem before September 30, 2018 to be eligible. A distinguished panel of professional writers and reviewers will judge the entries on the basis of originality, style, general presentation as well as spelling and grammar. Online submissions are encouraged – hpl.ca/teens.

Categories

Participants can enter both the English and French categories.

English

Please submit one poem and/or short story per person to our English category. Each entry will be submitted in the age group that you fall in (12 poetry, 12 short story, 13 poetry, etc.)

French

Please submit one poem and/or nouvelle to our French Category. The number of categories will depend on the number of entries received.

Prizes:

A first and second prize winner will be chosen in each age category – 12 through 18 years of age. First prize winners in each age category will receive a cash prize of \$100 while second prize winners in each age category will receive \$25. Award winners will receive a copy of the Power of the Pen publication.

Each English-prize-winning entry will also qualify for the Hamilton Association for the Advancement of Literature, Science and Art's prestigious Maitland Banting Silver Quill Award and the Hamilton Association Young Poet's Award. The winner in each category will receive a cash prize of \$250.

Contest Rules:

- Entrants must be between the ages of 12 and 18 and be a resident of Hamilton or a neighbouring city.
- One poem and/or short story per person may be submitted in both the English and French categories. Each entry requires a separate entry form.
- Short stories must not exceed 2,500 words in length. Poems may be any length.
- Entries should be typed, double-spaced and all pages numbered. Paper copies are required for mailed and hand-delivered submissions.
- Typed entries must double-spaced, with font Arial or Times New Roman and size 11 or 12 point.
- Do not put your name anywhere on your work. Your name must be on the entry form only.
- All works submitted must be original. If it is fanfiction, the work of inspiration must be clearly named.
- The decision of the judges is final.
- Judged submissions will be available for pick-up the evening of the awards ceremony or during the month of January at Central Library.
- All entries will be scanned to ensure originality. Plagiarism will result in automatic disqualification.

How to Enter:

Attach an entry form to your submission. Submit your original short story and or poem to any branch of the Hamilton Public Library by **September 30, 2018**. Winners will be notified in December and will be asked to provide an electronic copy of their winning submission for publication and posting. For more information, please call 905-546-3200 x1045.

Note to Teachers:

If you are submitting a short story or poem on behalf of a student, please ensure that each work is accompanied by a completed official entry form.

Power of the Pen 2018 - ENTRY FORM



*Please complete all sections of the entry form and print clearly.

Firs Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Age as of December 31st 2018: _____

Completing this form gives the Hamilton Public Library your consent to:

- Collect your personal information, which will only be used by the Hamilton Public Library to communicate with you about the Power of the Pen Writing contest;
- Use you/your child's original written submission or photograph for publicity.*

*Publicity can include: print materials such as: posters, brochures, etc..., local and social media, in addition to online sites such as: hpl.ca.

TITLE OF SUBMISSION:

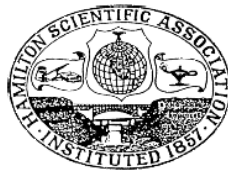
POEM (English) SHORT STORY (English) Poème (français) Nouvelle (français)

*Please use one entry form per submission.

How did you find out about the Power of the Pen?

Word of mouth (Family/friends) Teacher In library Website Participated last year

Thank you for submitting your work to the Power of the Pen Creative Writing Contest. Winners will be notified in December. All judged submissions will be available for pick-up the evening of the awards ceremony or during the month of January at Central Library.



STAFF: PLEASE FORWARD TO CENTRAL LIBRARY – Children's Department Attn: Koren Nichol