

# 2012 WWA Contest Rules

*Preliminary Release 12/5/2012*

Please read these rules and instructions carefully. This document is structured as follows:

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The General Instructions apply to all categories within the contests sponsored by the WWA—Spring’s Lindemann Humor, Nelson Journalism, Jessica Nelson North Poetry, and SOAR Scholarship Competition, and Fall’s Jade Ring Contests. Instructions that apply to a specific contest follow the General Instructions, under the heading for each contest.

These instructions are also available on the WWA website ([www.wiwrite.org](http://www.wiwrite.org)). If you have any questions, please address them to WWA Contests Work Group Coordinator ([ctwg@wiwrite.org](mailto:ctwg@wiwrite.org)), or the specific contest manager (listed under each contest).

## Contests at a Glance

<i>Contest</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Word count/ format restrictions</i>	<i>WWA membership required?</i>
<b>Florence Lindemann Humor Writing Contest</b>			
Humorous Essay	March 15	1250 words	yes
<b>Al P. Nelson Journalism Contest</b>			
Feature Article	March 15	1250 words	yes
Editorial/opinion Essay	March 15	1250 words	yes
<b>Jessica Nelson North Poetry Book Contest</b>			
Poetry: 49-100 page collection of a single author's poetry	March 15	Up to 100 pages	<b>no</b>
<b>School of the Arts: Rhinelander Scholarship Competition</b>			
Persuasive Writing (Scholarship Application)	March 15	500 words	yes
<b>Jade Ring Contests</b>			
Fiction: Young Adult Short Story (for readers 12-18)	June 15	2000 words	yes
Fiction: Children's Short Story (for readers 4-11)	June 15	2000 words	yes
Fiction: Adult Short Story: Realistic (e.g., mystery, romance, thriller, mainstream, etc.)	June 15	5000 words	yes
Fiction: Adult Short Story: Fantastic (e.g., sci fi, horror, magical, etc.)	June 15	5000 words	yes
Nonfiction: Memoir/ Reminiscence (about self and/or family including nostalgia)	June 15	1500 words	yes
Nonfiction: Essay (discussion of a subject or issue from a point of view, but not nostalgia, memoir, or reminiscence)	June 15	1500 words	yes
Poetry: Formalist (written in rhymed or unrhymed metrical verse)	June 15	75 lines	yes
Poetry: Free Verse (written in unrhymed non-metrical verse)	June 15	75 lines	yes
Book: First Chapters: first chapter of a completed draft of a book-length manuscript, minimum 55,000 words total.	June 15	Minimum 1,000 words, maximum 3,000 words	<b>no</b>
Script: Plays, screenplays, and/or radio plays.	Coming in 2013	<b>To be decided</b>	<b>no</b>

### **Purpose of WWA Writing Contests**

The Wisconsin Regional Writers Association offers these writing contests to its members for two reasons:

1. As an organization created in 1948 to promote the writing arts in Wisconsin, these contests are intended to offer both a challenge and an outlet to encourage our members to continually strive to improve their skills.
2. These contests provide our members with an opportunity to build their writing credentials, which can assist them in marketing their work to other publishing venues.

Winning entries will be published in the WWA *Creative Wisconsin* magazine and posted on the WWA website.

## General Instructions for all WWA-sponsored Contests

### Eligibility for WWA-Sponsored Contests

All WWA members in good standing (annual membership fee is paid) are eligible to enter.

**Nonmembers** of the WWA may enter the **Jessica Nelson North Poetry Book Contest**, the **Jade Ring First Chapter** and **Jade Ring Scripts** contest categories at the nonmember rate.

### **Exceptions:**

The manager of a specific WWA-sponsored contest category cannot enter the contest category he/she is managing, but is free to enter work in any other contest category.

**Anyone who wins a First Prize is ineligible to enter that category in the following year.** We encourage our winning writers to challenge themselves by entering contest categories other than those for which they have already received an award.

### Minimum Entries Requirement

Each WWA-sponsored writing contest has a 20 entry minimum requirement. If a contest does not receive at least 20 entries that contest will be cancelled for that year and no prizes will be awarded. If a contest category has to be cancelled, paper entries and checks will be shredded and those entrants notified of the cancellation.

### Joining the WWA while Entering a Contest

If you are joining the WWA at the same time you enter a contest, submit your WWA dues separately with a membership application to the Membership Recorder. Do not include a membership application with your contest entry and do not include membership dues with your check for entry fees. Contest Managers will not accept an entry that includes a membership application/check.

If you are joining the WWA at the same time you are entering a contest, please add a note stating that fact on the contest entry cover sheet. Contest Managers check eligibility against the current membership roster.

### Entry Requirements

- WWA members may submit unlimited entries.
- All entries must be original and not previously published in any form or any medium (including edited online publications). A rewrite of a published article does not qualify. Social networking sites, such as Facebook, Gather, etc., that do not use an editor's selection process are not considered publishing sites.
- Erotica is not allowed in any WWA contest.
- Subsequent to award of prizes, winners are free to submit their contest entries elsewhere.
- No prize-winning entry may ever be resubmitted to the same contest category. Thus, a third place winner may not be submitted in a later year to the same contest hoping for a better result. Write new material.
- Simultaneously entering the same written material to multiple WWA-sponsored contest categories is not permitted.
- Your submission to any WWA contest grants WWA permission to publish First Place winners in its *Creative Wisconsin* magazine and on the WWA Web site, where it will remain for up to one year.

- Finalists in each category are strongly encouraged to attend the awards banquet to accept their prizes and read their entries. **Registration for the full day** is required to attend any function on that day, including the Awards Banquet and award presentation ceremony. Please plan to participate in the day's other offerings as well.
- Should a finalist be unable to attend, a proxy may be appointed by the finalist to read the entry and accept the prize. (Please take care of this before the conference.) If the author or a proxy is not present, a Contest Manager will read the First Place entry. Awards for those not attending can be claimed by a friend or mailed to the winner.
- Authors are free to exercise their continuing rights to publish elsewhere any time after the winner is announced.
- WWA, Inc. and the judges reserve the right not to award all or any prizes in a contest category if the level of writing quality for a category's entries is determined not to warrant it. If no prizes are awarded, entrants will be notified. Entry checks will be shredded or a refund check sent to those who use PayPal.

### Entry Fee

- \$10 for first entry for a WWA member in good standing. Discount of 20% for second and subsequent (unlimited) entries for members only. Thus, if a member submits in 5 categories, or submits multiple entries in one category, the first entry costs \$10 and subsequent entries cost \$8.
- Charter Club members' entry fee is \$8 for all entries.
- In categories **open to nonmembers** (Jessica Nelson North Poetry Book; Jade Ring First Chapters and Scripts), the entry fee for a nonmember of WWA is \$15.
- The SOAR Scholarship Competition, open only to members, does not require an entry fee.
- Checks must be made out to WWA, Inc. and included with submission.
- If you wish to have receipt of your manuscript acknowledged, include a SAS postcard. **Entries are not returned to authors.** Do not send your only copy of a manuscript.
- If you wish to receive the judge's feedback on your submission, add \$5 to the fee for that entry and include a SASE. The judge will offer a paragraph of constructive critique focusing on what would have made the entry more competitive for a prize. (Winners automatically receive feedback whether or not they have paid the feedback fee.)
- WWA, Inc. is not responsible for lost manuscripts. Postage-due manuscripts will be refused. Please do not send entries via Certified Mail.

### Prizes

All contest categories are awarded the same cash prizes:

First Place:       \$ 100

Second Place:     \$ 70

Third Place:       \$ 40

Honorable Mention:       (two maximum, no cash prize)

Each contest category winner receives a certificate of achievement. At the discretion of the judge, no more than two honorable mentions will be awarded per contest category.

Contest winners will be notified prior to the conference that they will receive an award, but first, second, and third place winners will not be told their order of placement. Notification is a courtesy to allow winners to make travel plans to attend the award ceremony. Prize winners are requested not to divulge that information before the awards ceremony.

All contest entrants will be notified in a timely fashion that prize winners were selected and notified.

## **Special Prizes**

### ***Al. P. Nelson Journalism Contest***

The judge will select one of the two 1st place entries as the grand prize winner to receive a traveling trophy (no additional cash prize). A traveling trophy with the first place winner's name engraved on it will be yours to display for a year and must be returned to the Contest Manager by the end of the following March so the next winner's name can be engraved.

### ***School of the Arts-Rhineland (SOAR) Scholarship Competition***

Winner of scholarship competition received \$250 to offset tuition at the School of the Arts-Rhineland. Winner **must be present at the spring conference** to accept the award.

## ***Jade Ring Contests***

**Jade Rings:** First-time First Place winners in each category of the Jade Ring Contests who are members of the WWA also receive a jade ring; only one jade ring is ever awarded to an individual. WWA, Inc. will not replace lost or destroyed rings. A WWA member who wins subsequent First Place prizes in the Jade Ring Contests will receive certificates and cash prizes only after their first win.

**Bard's Chair:** The original custom of passing a chair from Bard to Bard has been retired. Beginning in 2012 a miniature wooden chair is presented to one of the two poetry category first-place prize winners, denoting the WWA's top poet for the year; this replica Bard's Chair is the winner's to keep.

The selection of the Bard's Chair recipient will be determined by mutual agreement of the poetry contest category judge(s) and poetry contest category manager(s).

## **Manuscript Preparation and Submission**

Not meeting these requirements will result in disqualification. Entry fee check will be shredded or a refund sent to those who paid by PayPal.

Spring contests open January 1 and close March 15. Fall contests open March 15 and close June 15.

**New in 2012: Entries may be submitted by mail or an electronic process we are committed to developing by January 1, 2012.** Members will be notified of details for electronic submissions provided you have given us your email address when you registered as a member. Instructions will also be posted on the WWA website and an announcement will be posted on our Facebook page. Fees for electronic submissions may be paid by PayPal or submitted by mail to the contest manager.

**Entries by mail** must be postmarked no later than the closing date of the contest. Do not staple pages together. If you are submitting multiple entries in a single envelope, use paper clips to separate entries. Manila envelopes (9 by 12 inch size) preferred. Do not fold entries. If you are requesting judges' feedback, those entries must be sent via postal mail along with the \$5 fee and an SASE of suitable size. Entries should be mailed to the Contest Registrar.

Instructions will also be posted on the WWA website and an announcement will be posted on our Facebook page.

Entries must be typed, double-spaced, on one side only of white paper. Leave margins of at least 1 inch. (See the WWA website for a sample.) Use a readable font and size (12 point Courier or Times New Roman recommended).

**Word Count:** Each number and word – yes, every “and,” “a,” “I,” “an,” “the,” etc. – does count as a word. Hyphenated words count as one word.

**Do not submit your only copy of your entry.** In the event a contest category is canceled entries received will be destroyed.

### **Cover Sheet**

**Each entry must contain its own cover sheet. Your name must appear only on the cover sheet.** Subsequent pages should include only the work’s title and page numbers, but no other identifying information. The WAA Contest Registrar keeps the cover sheet, “blinds” the entry by replacing cover sheets with an identifying numbers, and then sends all entries to the judges.

A **form and example cover sheet** appear at the end of this document. Please include a brief biography of your writing background, and any other information about yourself you feel appropriate. Winners’ biographies help us publicize the contests.

**Additional requirement for Jade Ring entries:** Include on the entry cover sheet your ring size. If you have won a jade ring previously, please note that fact instead of including your ring size.

## **Specific Instructions for Individual WWA-sponsored Contests**

Mail all paper entries to:

Lisa Lickel  
WWA Contests Registrar  
8895 State Road 144  
Kewaskum, WI 53040-9723

Online entries accepted at [www.wiwrite.org/contests/online-entry.htm](http://www.wiwrite.org/contests/online-entry.htm)

### ***Florence Lindemann Humor Contest***

**Qualifying Topic:** A nonfiction essay or article with a humorous theme and/or incorporating humorous elements.

**Contest Dates:** Opens January 1. Entries must be postmarked no later than March 15 when contest closes.

**Maximum Length:** 1,250 words

**Awards:** Prizes (see above) will be awarded at the Spring Conference.

**Contact Contest Manager for More Information:**

Karin Schmidt, Contest Manager  
4315B Spruce Ln.  
Eagle River, WI 54521-9374  
Email address: flmgr@wiwrite.org

### **Florence Lindemann Humor Contest History**

The Florence Lindemann Humor Contest began in 1979 following Florence's death that year. She had advocated a humor writing contest, so the ByLiners of Milwaukee honored her with this memorial contest. Florence's family joined the memorial project the next year by providing a traveling trophy, now retired.

A widely published freelance writer and instrumental in developing a variety of projects promoting the writing craft in Wisconsin, Florence was past president of the National League of American Pen Women, a regional vice president of the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets, and a member of the WWA Board of Directors, Wisconsin Press Women, the National Federation of Press Women, Women in Communication, and the ByLiners. She won many awards for her writing, including a Jade Ring for Article in 1973, and was published in many markets including the *Milwaukee Journal*, *Milwaukee Sentinel*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Reader's Digest*, *Lutheran Digest*, and the *Milwaukee Lutheran*.

### **Al P. Nelson Journalism Contest**

#### **Editorial/Opinion Essay**

**Qualifying Topic:** An Editorial/Opinion essay involving Wisconsin. Judges will consider strength of opinion, strength of argument, persuasiveness, logic, and reasoning, supportive facts, clarity, pungency of phrase, power to influence public opinion, and call to action. Conversational and creative approaches are welcome. The issue in focus should have broad importance to the state, its people, local government, business, education, or any other topic of importance with a strong Wisconsin hook.

**Contest Dates:** Opens January 1. Entries must be postmarked no later than March 15 when contest closes.

**Maximum Length:** 1,250 words (5 typed, double-spaced pages, 250 words per page).

**Awards:** Prizes (see above) will be awarded at the Spring Conference.

#### **Contact Contest Manager for More Information:**

Bill Nelson, Contest Manager ☐  
2365 Mary Beth Court  
Brookfield, Wis. 53005-4968  
Email address: Nelson@WWA.net

#### **Feature Article**

**Qualifying Topic:** A feature nonfiction article pertaining to people/places involving Wisconsin, or at least a recognizable link to Wisconsin. Reminiscences have dominated previous contests, but profiles, essays, how-tos, travel, and round-up articles have made their mark, too.

**Contest Dates:** Opens January 1. Entries must be postmarked no later than March 15 when contest closes.

**Maximum Length:** 1,250 words (5 typed, double-spaced pages, 250 words per page).

**Awards:** Prizes (see above) will be awarded at the Spring Conference.

**Contact Contest Manager for More Information:**

Bill Nelson, Contest Manager □  
2365 Mary Beth Court  
Brookfield, Wis. 53005-4968  
Email address: Nelson@WWA.net

**Al P. Nelson Journalism Contest History**

The Al P. Nelson Journalism Contest originated in 1995, a year after Al Nelson's death at age 91. Originally known as the Feature Article contest, this competition was renamed the Journalism Contest when the Editorial/Opinion category was added in 2012 in response to member interest.

Al Nelson's family spearheaded the contest, fulfilling one of his last wishes. A novelist turned business writer, Al also was a University of Wisconsin Extension writing instructor for many years, teaching adult evening classes in 19 Wisconsin cities. Later, he taught over the UW Extension's Educational Teleconference Network (ETN), which covered the entire state.

He was a regular columnist for WWA's newsletter and in 1970 received a teaching excellence award from the Extension and Standard Oil. In 1980 he received the first annual Christopher Latham Sholes award for his writing and teaching accomplishments from the Council for Wisconsin Writers. (Sholes is credited with inventing the typewriter.)

Before his death, the Delafield writer made a tally of his work: eight books, 75 short stories and close to 5,000 articles.

"To be able to earn a good living at the things I liked best—writing and teaching—makes me a very lucky man," he said.

**Jessica Nelson North Poetry Book Contest**

**Qualifying Topic:** Poetry presented in a book-length collection of a single author's work. Entries must be an unpublished manuscript of a single author's original poetry. It is acceptable for some of the poetry to have been published before, so long as the author retains the copyright and gives credit where the items have been previously published, but the manuscript should include a substantial number of poems that have not been previously published. The first prize winner will be given strong consideration for publication by the WRWA Press if the author meets our requirements for participating energetically in book promotion.

**Contest Dates:** Opens January 1. Entries must be postmarked no later than March 15 when contest closes.

**Awards:** Prizes (see above) will be awarded at the Spring Conference.

**Length:** Minimum of 49 pages, maximum of 100.

**Contact Contest Manager for More Information:**

Need volunteer

**Jessica Nelson North Poetry Book Contest History**

The Jessica Nelson North Poetry Book Contest was added in 2012 in response to member interest. Jessica Nelson North was born in Madison, Wisconsin in 1891 and for many years worked on the staff of Chicago's *Poetry: A Magazine of Verse*, often described as one of the leading poetry journals in the English-speaking world. In 1936 North succeeded Harriet Monroe as editor, from 1937 to 1942 she jointly edited the magazine with Peter De Vries, from 1942 to 1949 she collaborated as part of a larger editorial group, and from 1949 to 1969, North continued

her involvement with *Poetry Magazine* in an advisory capacity. During her writing career, she published several collections of poetry and received many awards for her work. In *Poetry* alone, she published more than one hundred fifty poems and articles. For nearly fifty years, from the 1920s through the 1960s, Jessica Nelson North published her own work, and exercised editorial leadership in publishing many of the major poets of the twentieth century. Jessica Nelson North died in 1988.

***School of the Arts-Rhineland (SOAR)***

**Qualifying Topic:** An essay on why the applicant believes attending SOAR would be a boost to his/her writing aspirations.

**Contest Dates:** Opens January 1. Entries must be postmarked no later than March 15 when contest closes.

**Awards:** Scholarship \$250 will be awarded at the Spring Conference. Winning applicant is notified and **must be present at the spring conference** to accept the award. If not, it goes to the second place finisher, and so on. If no winner is present, the scholarship is not awarded.

**Length:** One single-spaced page not to exceed 500 words.

**Contact Scholarship Program Manager for More Information:**

Roxanne Aehl  
500 Monroe Street  
Sauk City, WI 53583  
608-643-3229  
soar@wiwrite.org

**School of the Arts-Rhineland (SOAR) Scholarship Competition history:**

The School of the Arts at Rhineland was founded in 1964 by Robert Gard (who also founded WWA in 1948). WWA has provided a scholarship for a member to attend for over a decade.

## Jade Ring Contests

### **General Information about all Jade Ring Contests:**

**Contest Dates:** Opens March 15. Entries must be postmarked no later than June 15 when contest closes.

**Awards:** Prizes (see above) will be awarded at the Fall Conference.

**Entries:** You may enter as many categories as you wish, as many times as you wish, accompanied by the applicable fees. Send your entry(ies) to the appropriate Contest Category Manager (see below).

**Categories:** Nonfiction, Fiction, Poetry, First Chapters, Scripts

### **Jade Ring Subcategory: NonFiction**

**Memoir/ Reminiscence:** about self and/or family, includes nostalgia. 1500 words maximum

**Essay:** Discussion of a subject or issue from a point of view, but not in the form of nostalgia, memoir, or reminiscence. Essays may be written to convince someone of a point of view, to relate a personal experience for a specific reason, or simply to focus on an observation the author believes has some import. Essays may be serious, humorous, or even wistful or whimsical. What they have in common (and what separates them from Memoir/Reminiscence) is that they are about a specific subject, are focused on that subject, are presented from the author's point of view, and come to some conclusion. We acknowledge that an essay could be nostalgic in tone. But, we'd like to focus this category on contemporary subjects, or even those with implications for the future. Items that are nostalgic in character should be submitted to the Memoir/Reminiscence category.

**Maximum length:** 1500 words.

The Contest Manager shall review entries before bundling them and sending them to the judge and will, at his/her discretion, send entries to the appropriate category judge.

### **Contact Contest Manager for More Information:**

Robert Chesney, Contest Manager  
1827 Covered Bridge Road  
Cedarburg, WI 53012-8819  
Email address: jdnfic@wiwrite.org

### **Jade Ring Subcategory: Short Fiction**

**Young Adult Short Story:** (for readers 12-18) 2000 words maximum

**Children's Short Story:** (for readers 4-11) 2000 words maximum

**Adult Short Story, Realistic:** (e.g., mystery, romance, thriller, mainstream, etc.)

**Adult Short Story, Fantastic:** (e.g., sci fi, horror, magical, etc.)

**Maximum length:** 5,000 words

### **Contact Contest Manager for More Information:**

Nancy Jesse, Contest Manager  
109 N. Prospect Ave.  
Madison, WI 53726  
Email address: jdfic@wiwrite.org

**Jade Ring Subcategory: Poetry**

**Poetry: Formalist:** (written in rhymed or unrhymed metrical verse)

**Poetry: Free Verse:** (written in unrhymed non-metrical verse)

**Maximum length:** 75 lines

**Starting in 2012, each poem submitted is a single entry requiring its own entry fee.**  
(The policy of allowing four separate poems for one entry fee has been discontinued.)

**Contact Contest Manager for More Information:**

Suzy Wedeward, Contest Manager  
3558 Martha Court  
West Bend, WI 53059-8792  
Email address: jdpoet@wiwrite.org

**Jade Ring Subcategory: First Chapters**

***Entries in all First Chapters genres compete for one prize.***

An entry will be the first chapter (minimum 1,000 words to a maximum of 3,000 words) of a **completed draft for a book-length manuscript** (minimum of 55,000 words).

Because First Chapters is intended for authors of long-form manuscripts, each entrant will be required to demonstrate that an entered first chapter comes from a completed book-length manuscript. Following the judging period but before the WWA Fall Conference, prize winners will be asked to submit the completed manuscript to the First Chapter Contests Manager who will verify a prize-winning entry has complied with all contest rules. Submission of the proof/manuscript may be electronic or hard copy. If this is not done that entry will be ruled ineligible and remaining prize winners adjusted.

Do not submit your only copy of your entry. In the event a contest category is canceled entries received will be destroyed.

Entries may be nonfiction, realistic fiction, or fantastic element fiction. All genres compete for one prize.

A writer who is not a WWA member may enter the First Chapter category following stated rules and with an entry fee of \$15.

**Length:** minimum 1,000 words to a maximum of 3,000 words

**Contact Contest Manager for More Information:**

Sean Patrick Little  
806 N. Pine St.  
Sun Prairie, WI 53590-1145  
Email address: jd1st@wiwrite.org

**Jade Ring Subcategory: Scripts**

*This contest is “under construction.” If you’re interested in competing in the Scripts category, please join our task force working on developing criteria for this competition.*

Contact the WWA contest workgroup coordinator at [ctwg@wiwrite.org](mailto:ctwg@wiwrite.org). This contest will debut in 2013.

Entries in all **Scripts** genres compete for one prize.

This category is open to stage plays, screenplays, and radio scripts. Each entry must conform to the proper format for its genre. Entries should consist of scripted dialogue between characters and/or stage directions, intended for theatrical performance, recorded production, or staged reading.

A writer who is not a WWA member may enter the Scripts category following stated rules and with an entry fee of \$15.

**Maximum length:** within industry guidelines for genre (stage play, screenplay, or radio scripts). Screenplays

**Contact Contest Manager for More Information:**

[Need volunteer Scripts Contest Manager](#)

### **Jade Ring Contest History**

Before the WWA held its first annual conference in 1949, it established an annual writing contest, drawing more than 500 entries, with awards presented at that first fall conference.

During the evening of that first conference, WWA founder Robert Gard happened to meet and talk with J. L. Kraft of Kraft Foods in the bar of the conference venue. Mr. Kraft said he wanted to support writing and the goals of WWA, and offered to donate prizes for the next year's contest. (The 1950 Jade Ring Contests drew more than 1,000 entries in three categories, playwriting, poetry, and short story.)

As a lapidary specializing in jade, Mr. Kraft made jade rings for each category winner and those prizes were awarded by him personally in 1950. A tradition was born.

In 2010 the First Chapters category was added in response to member interest.

In 2013 the Scripts category will be reintroduced in response to member interest. Writing plays was a major interest for area writers when Robert Gard founded the Wisconsin Rural Writers Association (the original name of the organization) and was a category when WRWA contests debuted in 1950.

In 2012 the Poetry categories were redefined from Humorous and Serious to Formalist and Free Verse.

## 2012 WRWA Contest Entry: Cover Sheet Form

Contest Category/  
Subcategory: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Word Count: \_\_\_\_\_

Entrant: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

For Jade Ring Contest entries only:

Ring Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide your newspaper's address and editor's contact information (email address preferred) for press releases about winners.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Membership status:

I am a WAA member in good standing.

I am a new member and submitted my application and dues to the Membership Recorder on (date).

I am not a member of WAA.

Biography:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## 2012 WRWA Contest Entry, Cover Sheet Form: Example

Contest Category/

Subcategory: Jade Ring, Essay  
Entry Title: On Winning Contests  
Word Count: 1,155 words

Entrant: Jane Smith  
Address: 114 South Rocky Road  
Pleasantville, WI 56892  
Phone: (608) 123-4567  
Email: jsmith@company.com

For Jade Ring Contest entries only:  
Ring Size: 9

Please provide your newspaper's address and editor's contact information (email address preferred) for press releases about winners.

The Pleasantville Independent  
PO Box 777  
Pleasantville, WI 56892  
independent@company.com

Membership status:

I am a WAA member in good standing.

I am a new member and submitted my application and dues to the Membership Recorder on (date).

I am not a member of WAA.

biography:

Jane Smith is a freelance writer based in Pleasantville, WI. Her book *Two Slithy Toves* won the Posner Prize from the Council for Wisconsin Writers. Parallel Press will publish her book *Gyring the Gybble* in 2013. Smith's hobbies include collecting antique cameras and translating poetry from Urdu.

## First Page Example: Contest Entry

Title: "Sparks"

Word count: 3613 words

Category: Jade Ring Adult Short Story

Feedback requested: Yes

(The Contest Registrar will attach a feedback form to the entry at the time it is submitted to the judge)

**[Note that the name of the author does not appear on the manuscript sent to the judge.]**

Loon cries echoed in the dark. He shivered beneath the star-splattered sky that Binaakwe-giizis, the "Falling Leaves Moon" of the Ojibwe, would soon dominate. He lingered on the dew-wet riverbank, staring up at Orion's shining star belt and breathing in the marsh-grassy, lily-paddy odor of the river. Soon, Binaakwe-giizis would be full. Magic would ride the wind.

Recollection nudged. When was it? The last time all the family was alive together? He couldn't recall. Too many years had passed away since he was a young boy, full of hope, basking in the loving warmth of family. But it was long ago, before he was an orphan, before he turned into the old man he now was, before he came here to die in these remote forested acres that lay inside the Lac Courte Oreilles Indian Reservation in Northern Wisconsin.

All dead, but he saw them last night as he sat at the campfire beside his cabin. Flames lapped cold air, sending smoke and red sparks twirling skyward, hot sparks that dimmed to yellow, then faded to nothing. The old folks had appeared in shadows gathered at the farthest reach of firelight where it merged with night-shrouded trees. Shy, the old folks eluded the glare, not wishing to intrude, yet wanting to see him. Acrid pine laden smoke assailed his nostrils and stung his eyes making him lose their images, but then they reappeared, each looking the same as when he'd seen them last; all except his father who appeared as a young man with well combed dark hair and a self-deprecating smile. Fire flash danced in black eyes as his father grinned and beckoned, "Come."