Writing Opportunities for Elementary School Students

- Please visit organization’s website and read all regulations carefully, especially eligibility requirements, rights regarding ownership of work, etc.

**Literary Teens Halton**

**Who:** Dedicated to publishing written works and artworks for junior and high school students in Grades 5 to 12 (ages 10 to 19) in Halton Region (Burlington, Halton Hills, Milton, Oakville).

**What:** We invite original, previously unpublished contributions in forms of fiction, poetry, nonfiction, review, as well as art and photography. The magazine is published in both printed and online editions. All work published in LTH in print and online is copyright © the original authors.

**When:** Submissions to the magazine are open year-round. The magazine is published four times a year, in March, June, September, and December.

**Stone Soup: Stories, Poems, and Art by Kids**

**Who:** Stone Soup welcomes submissions by children ages 13 and younger.

**What:** We like to publish a variety of stories, poems, book reviews, and artwork in each issue.

**When:** Stone Soup is published six times a year, in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Submissions are accepted all year-round.

**OwlKids Contests and Student Advisory Committees**

**Who:** Readers of Chirp Magazine (3 – 6 year-olds), chickaDEE Magazine (6 – 9 year-olds), or OWL Magazine (9 – 13 year-olds). (HSC has subscriptions in the Elementary Learning Commons.)

**What:** Monthly contests for each magazine involving art, photography, games and/or writing. Watch for opportunity to apply to be part of Think Tank, OWL’s kids-only advisory team which gives the magazine’s staff valuable feedback and acts as a sounding board for new ideas; or Super Squad, chickaDEE’s student advisory team.

**When:** Each magazine offers monthly contests. Deadlines are usually the 15th or the end of the month.
Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Day Contests

Who: Four categories: Senior – Grades 10, 11, 12; Intermediate – Grades 7, 8 and 9; Junior – Grades 4, 5 and 6; and Primary (Poster Contest only) – Grades 1, 2 and 3.

What: The Poster Contest is divided into two divisions: Colour and Black & White; the Literary Contest is divided into Essay and Poem divisions. Students may enter as many contests as they wish to but may submit only one entry for each category.

When: Deadlines for entries in the Poster and Literary Contests are determined by the local Legion branches. Please contact your local Legion Branch for details. (Usually in early fall.)

Oakville Public Library Write2Xpress Contest

Who: Open to all Oakville students in grades 7-12.

What: Enter your short story and/or poem based on this image supplied by library.

When: Contest opens on Tuesday, September 8th, 2015 and closes on Thursday, October 15th, 2015.

IFOA Ontario and Open Book Ontario Write Across Ontario

Who: Open to middle and high school students in Ontario.

What: Students in grades 5 to 12 will write a story using the story-starter provided for their age group by one of four acclaimed Canadian authors.

When: Contest opens September 2, 2015 and closes November 6, 2015.

Meaning of Home National Writing Contest

Who: Grade 4, 5 and 6 students from across Canada.

What: Write a composition, essay, or poem (accompanied with video if you’d like to do so) and tell us what home means to you. Entry must be between 50 and 300 words.

When: October 1 to November 9, 2015.

BONUS: By entering, students have the chance to make a difference in their community. Genworth Canada will donate $5.00 CAD to the Habitat affiliate closest to the entrant’s city of residence.
**Canadian Poetry Institute Young Writers Poetry Contest**

- No entry fee but does charge for publication in anthology.

**Who:** Ages 5 – 18.

**What:** Poetry line limit is 24 lines or less, and one entry per poet. Creative writing theme is open, 360 words or less and one entry per writer.


**Polar Expressions Publishing -- Student Contests**

- There is no entry fee and no obligation to purchase anything but anthologies are available for sale.

**Who:** Canadian students in Kindergarten through Grade 12.

**What:** Poems must be 32 lines or less. Short stories must be 450 words or less. They should be fiction or fictionalized (change the names of real characters). No essays, reports, or fan fiction please.


**Jessamy Stursberg Poetry Contest for Canadian Youth**

**Who:** Canadian youth in two age categories, junior (Grades 7-9) and senior (Grades 10-12).

**What:** Poems must be previously unpublished and must be your own work. Length of each poem submitted must not exceed 50 lines. Limit 2 poems per poet.

**When:** Deadline January 15, 2016.

**Canada Book Week Writing Contest**

**Who:** Young writers in Grades 4 to 12.

**What:** Submit stories and/or poems. One winner from each grade will receive a $250 gift certificate for the bookstore of his or her choice. Two honourable mentions from each grade category will also receive $50 gift certificates.

**When:** Details for 2016 contest not yet announced. (Previous contest deadline was January 31, 2015.)

MP Sept 2015
**River of Words International Art & Poetry Contest**

Who: K-Grade 2, Grades 3-6, Grades 7-9, Grades 10-12.

What: Explore your watershed and then create poetry and/or art about what you observed. Poems should not exceed 32 lines in length.

When: International entries must be received by February 1, 2016.

**International Junior Authors Poetry and Short Story Contests**

Who: Age categories 11-12, 13-14, 15-16 and 17-18.

What: Contest is open to anyone between 11 and 21 years old as of March 31, 2016. One poem per person. Poem must be in English. Maximum length of poem is 50 lines. Short stories can be about anything you like. Be creative, be bold and have fun. We don’t judge the subject of your story, just how well you write it.


**Ripple Digital Publishing – Kids Write 4 Kids**

Who: Open to Canadian residents who are enrolled as full time students in a public or private institutional school in grades 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 at the time of their entry.

What: Stories can be prose or poetry, fact or fiction and between 500 and 7,500 words.


**Aboriginal Arts & Stories Competition**

Who: The contest is open to Canadians of Aboriginal ancestry (Status, Non-Status, Inuit and Métis) between the ages of 14-29. New this year: our competition is open to emerging writers and artists between the ages of 11-13!

What: Create a writing or art piece that explores a moment or theme in Aboriginal history or culture.

When: March 31, 2016.
**World Literacy Canada Write for a Better World**

**Who:** Canadian students in Grades 5 to 8.

**What:** Given a story starter, write an original story describing what happens next in 400 words or less.

**When:** Details for 2016 contest not yet announced. Previous contest deadline was April 3, 2015.

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**James Bartleman Aboriginal Youth Creative Writing Award**

**Who:** To be eligible you must be 18 years of age or under, self-identify as Aboriginal, attend a school in Ontario, be a resident of Ontario, be the author of an original creative writing piece (for example: short story, poem, essay, play or song) that has not in any part been copied.

**What:** There are two age categories: Junior (up to 12 years of age), Senior (13 – 18 years of age).

**When:** Annual deadline May 31.

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**Milton Public Library Put Pen to Paper Short Story Contest**

**Who:** Two grade divisions: Grades 6-8 and Grades 9-12. Entrants must reside or attend school in Milton.

**What:** Short stories must not exceed 1,500 words in length.

**When:** Details released spring of 2016. (Previous contest ran from May 8 to July 10, 2015.)

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**Burlington Public Library Take Flight and Write**

**Who:** Entrants must be a resident of Burlington or attend a school in Burlington. For students in Grades 7 through 12.

**What:** Short story: Grades 7 & 8, 9 & 10, 11 & 12. Poem: Grades 7 & 8, 9 & 10, 11 & 12. All short stories and poems must be unpublished, original work of the entrant. Fan fiction is not accepted.

**When:** Submissions accepted June 1 to July 31, 2016.
Eden Mills Writers’ Festival Children’s Poetry Contest

**Who:** Canadian elementary school children. Three levels: Primary (Gr. 1-3), Junior (Gr. 4-6), Intermediate (Gr. 7-8).

**What:** Entrants may submit one poem (one page maximum) each. Theme for 2016 contest not yet released.

**When:** Details for 2016 contest not yet released. Previous contest deadline was July 31, 2015.

Hamilton Public Library and The Hamilton Spectator Power of the Pen Contest

**Who:** Entrants must be between the ages of 12 and 18 and be a resident of Hamilton, Burlington, Flamborough, Dundas, Ancaster, Stoney Creek, Grimsby and communities within the outermost boundaries of those locations.

**What:** Please submit an original short story or poem before September 2016 to be eligible. If based upon another work (i.e. fanfiction), clearly state the work of inspiration.

**When:** Details for 2016 contest not yet announced. (Previous contest deadline was September 5, 2015)

Want to investigate more opportunities? Check out:

- [Freelance Writing](#)
- [Where Young Authors Can Submit](#)

For information on writing contests with entry fees, check out:

- [Scholastic Art & Writing Awards](#) (Grades 7 – 12; deadline December 16, 2015)
- [Pandora’s Collective: Annual Poetry Contest](#) (Children 13 and under; deadline January 15, 2016)