

The Hall of Stories Official Rules

Please read the following carefully before submitting your student's registration form.

Eligibility

The contest is open to students entering grades 3-12 during the 2026-2027 school year.

Students will compete in the following divisions:

- Grades 3-5
- Grades 6-8
- Grades 9-12

Entry Fee

There is no cost to enter.

Registration

- A parent or guardian must complete the registration form before a student may participate.
- In order to register, the Google form must be submitted. The link to this form can be found on our website at www.inspirekids2write.com.

Contest Requirements

- Stories may be any genre, including fantasy, mystery, adventure, science fiction, historical fiction, realistic fiction, humor, or drama.
- All stories must take place somewhere within the IK2W world.
- Stories must be original works created solely by the student.
- Stories must be written in the Google Document provided by Inspire Kids 2 Write.
- Only one entry may be submitted per student.
- Use of profanity or inappropriate subject matter will be cause for disqualification at the judges discretion.

Word Count Guidelines

- Grades 3-5: 500-1,500 words
- Grades 6-8: 750-2,500 words
- Grades 9-12: 1,000-3,500 words

Writing Process Requirements

- Students will receive an official contest Google Document on July 1.
- All writing and revision must take place within the provided document.
- Revision history must remain visible.
- Large copy-and-paste submissions are prohibited.
- Judges reserve the right to review revision history when evaluating authenticity.

Artificial Intelligence Policy

- Stories must represent the student's own work.
- The use of artificial intelligence to generate, write, or revise stories is prohibited.
- Entries that appear to be AI-generated will be disqualified at the discretion of the judges.

Judging Criteria

- Creativity and Originality (25 points)
- Story Development (25 points)
- Character Development (20 points)
- Writing Craft (20 points)
- Grammar and Conventions (10 points)
- Total: 100 points

Prizes

Each age division will award:

- 1st Place: \$75 Visa Gift Card
- 2nd Place: \$50 Visa Gift Card
- 3rd Place: \$25 Visa Gift Card

Additional Honorable Mentions may be recognized.

Publication

- Students retain ownership of their work.
- By entering the contest, participants grant Inspire Kids 2 Write permission to publish submitted stories in contest-related materials, including The Hall of Stories anthology, website, social media, and promotional materials.
- Parent permission is required for publication.

Important Dates

- July 1, 2026: Registration Opens and Google Documents Distributed
- July 27, 2026: Submission Deadline
- July 28-August 10, 2026: Judging Period
- August 11, 2026: Winners Announced