



Avian Kingdom's Creative Writing Contest Rules and Regulations

Oh no! Avian Kingdom's Pelican Sky is missing its last chapter. We invite your students to get creative and tell us how they would like the book to end by writing the final chapter! Send your entries in by the deadline and one of your students' stories could be published for all to see!

MANY WILL ENTER, FEW WILL WIN. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. The Avian Kingdom's Creative Writing Contest is produced by Avian Kingdom. The contest begins on or about March 3, 2015, and ends with the application deadline on April 13, 2015. To enter the contest, students' work must be submitted by this deadline, and entry must be submitted to: *Avian Kingdom's Writing Contest, 1302 Waugh Dr., Nest 747, Houston TX, 77019*. If entry is scanned or typed, entry may also be submitted through email to WritingContest@AvianKingdom.com or uploaded on the web at <http://AvianKingdom.com/Writing-Contest/>. One winner will be chosen from each of the eligible grades (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th); submissions may be the work of an individual, a class, or co-authors. Winners will be recognized for their achievement on the Avian Kingdom website by May, 2015.

Eligibility & Entry Guidelines

- Entrants must be from ages 5 to 13 on the date of April 24, 2015.
- All entries are required to be submitted along with the entry form available at <http://AvianKingdom.com/Writing-Contest/>.
- Stories should attempt to follow the established storyline of the book *Pelican Sky*, meaning the writer should refrain from introducing new characters and work only with those already appearing in the story.
- Co-authored and class-participation stories will be accepted; both options should contain groups of children of the same grade.
- Only one entry per person will be accepted in this contest; all subsequent entries, excluding class-participation and co-authored entries, will be disqualified.
- Any failure to adhere to these Contest Rules may result in disqualification from the contest.
- Teachers and/or parents are encouraged to proofread your students' stories.
- No purchase is necessary. Many will enter, few will win.

Word Count Requirement

- First and Second grade stories must have a minimum of 50 words. There is no maximum word count.
- Third and Fourth grade stories must have a minimum of 100 words. There is no maximum word count.
- Fifth and Sixth grade stories must have a minimum of 150 words. There is no maximum word count.
- The word count includes "a," "an," and "the." Text must be printed or written legibly or typed.
- Children who cannot write may dictate their story to be printed, written legibly or typed.
- Languages accepted: English or Spanish

Format & Illustrations

- Mailed entries: should be written legibly, and is allowed to be a xerox/copy of the written story.
- Online or email entries: allowed to be a xerox/copy of the written story, if written legibly. Other formats that are allowed are Word documents (.doc, .docx), or PDFs (.pdf).

Official Entry Form

- Each entry must include the official Avian Kingdom's Writing Creative Writing Contest Entry Form, with the required signature of a parent/guardian (and, if appropriate, the optional signature of the sponsoring teacher), consenting to allowing their child/ward to enter the contest, confirming that the story and art are original, and granting certain rights to the entry materials.
- The entry form must be complete and legible to be eligible.

Judging, Awards, & Notification

All entries submitted to the Avian Kingdom will be judged using the judging criteria and percentages below by a panel of judges from the Avian Kingdom team. The entry with the highest percentage from each grade will be deemed the grand prize winner for that grade on the Avian Kingdom website. Judging of the contest entries will take place on during April and May of 2015. Avian Kingdom will impanel a jury of no fewer than three (3) judges to judge all entries for the contest. The judging criteria and percentages used by any judging in connection with the judging round of the contest shall be scored and graded using a rubric based on the following criteria as follows:

- 60% creativity and originality of plot and/or themes,
- 40% story structure and use of literary devices

All decisions of the judges are final and binding and not subject to appeal of review. A Publishing Prize Winner will be named to the student with the overall highest score from among all entrants. Winners will be notified on or before May 2015. Each grand prize winner's entry may be posted on the Avian Kingdom website at <http://AvianKingdom.com/Writers-Contest> in 2015.

Prizes

Six (6) Grand Prize Winners (One (1) First Place winner per grade) - A collection of the Avian Kingdom's Feathered Tales series (in either English or Spanish), announcement of achievement on the Avian Kingdom's website, and a frameable award. **One (1) Publishing Prize Winner** - A collection of the Avian Kingdom's Feathered Tales series (in either English or Spanish), announcement of achievement on the Avian Kingdom's website, and a frameable award. This winner's story will also be published digitally through Apple iTunes and Kindle. **Co-authored or class participation authored stories** will receive the same prizes from either category; no additional books will be given for their stories.

Return of Entries

The contest administrators are not required to return mailed entries and are not responsible for late, lost, stolen, miscredited, damaged, mutilated, incomplete, or illegible entries, or postage-due mail.

Rights Associated with Contest

Submission of the Entry Form constitutes permission from the participant's parent/legal guardian for Avian Kingdom to use the participant's name, likeness, biographical information, information and materials contained in the Entry Form, photographs, and any statements or remarks made about the contest in advertising and promotion without further compensation or permission, except where prohibited by law. All entries, and copyrights therein, become the sole property of Avian Kingdom. By entering, entrants' parent/legal guardian agree to abide by the above stated rules, and warrant that their child's/ward's entry is their original work and does not infringe upon or violate rights of any third party, and grant to Avian Kingdom the right to modify, publish, promote, and otherwise use their entry materials without permission, notice, or compensation. No royalties will be paid at this or any time. By submitting an entry and Entry Form, each participant's parent/legal guardian, on behalf of the participant, agrees to assign all right, title, and interest in and to the entry and Entry Form to Avian Kingdom and warrants that the participant's parent/legal guardian has the authority to assign such right, title, and interest. In the event that any applicable law requires certain formalities to be fulfilled to effectuate such grant of rights, each participant (and parent or guardian) agrees to cooperate with Avian Kingdom to achieve fulfillment of such formalities. By submitting an Entry Form, each participant's parent/legal guardian, on behalf of the participant, agrees to be bound by these Contest Rules. Each participant's parent/legal guardian, on behalf of the participant, agrees to release and hold Avian Kingdom, and its employees, officers, directors, shareholders, agents, representatives, subsidiaries, parent companies, or other affiliated companies harmless from any and all damages, losses, claims and liabilities arising out of participation in the contest or resulting from acceptance or claiming of any prize hereunder. Avian Kingdom reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to terminate, suspend, or otherwise cancel the contest at any time. Income and all other taxes are the responsibility of the prize recipient. Avian Kingdom is not responsible for any expenses incurred in connection with participation in the contest.

Visit <http://AvianKingdom.com/Writing-Contest/> to download the *Official Contest Entry Form* and to submit online.

If you have any questions, please contact

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