

2008 Eastern Oklahoma Writing Contest

The Muskogee Phoenix is accepting entries for its annual Eastern Oklahoma Writing Contest.

Entries, in both the adult and youth divisions, should adhere to the following guidelines:

- Poetry — 20 lines maximum; any topic.
- Short story — 2,000 word maximum; any topic.
- Humorous column — 600-word maximum; entries can be on any topic, local, state or national.

Winning entries will be acknowledged at the Muskogee Public Library during the awards ceremony in April 2008.

First-place winners in poetry and short story will receive \$100, second-place winners \$50, and third-place winners \$25, in cash or prizes.

The winners of the humorous column division will receive \$25 in cash or prizes.

The adult division is open to anyone 19 years or older as of Feb. 29, 2008.

Youth entries are limited to those 12 years old or no older than 18 as of Feb. 29, 2008.

The contest is open to any resident within the Eastern Oklahoma District Library System or coverage area of the Muskogee Phoenix, which includes Muskogee, Adair, Cherokee, Delaware, Haskell, McIntosh, Sequoyah and Wagoner counties.

All material must be original, unpublished work. You may not submit more than one entry per category.

Submissions may be made by mail or e-mail. If mailed, submissions must be postmarked no later than Feb. 29, 2008, to:

Muskogee Phoenix Writing Contest
P.O. Box 1968
Muskogee, OK 74402.

If e-mailed, send submissions to writingcontest@muskogeephoenix.com. If mailed, entries must be typed on 8 1/2- by 11-inch paper and double spaced.

A cover sheet for all work must contain name of author; complete address; phone number; birthday, only if in youth division; and title of work. Subsequent pages should have header in upper right hand corner with only the title and page number.

There is no entry fee for youth in any category or those adults who enter the humorous column category. Entry fee for an adult is \$5 each for the short story and poetry categories. All entry fees will go only for judging, prize money or publication of anthology.

All entries must be accompanied with proper entry fees, with checks payable to Muskogee Phoenix.

Winners will be notified in early April of results.

Employees of the Muskogee Daily Phoenix and the Muskogee Public Library and their immediate family members are not eligible to enter. Prizes will be awarded only in categories in which at least five works are submitted.

The contest is sponsored by the Muskogee Public Library, the Muskogee Phoenix, and David Gerard, opinion editor for the Phoenix, and co-sponsored by First National Bank of Muskogee and Jasper's Restaurant.

