



*How did an author's work
change your view
of the world or yourself?*

Contest entry deadline: January 31, 2023
Entries will be accepted beginning November 14, 2022

The Wyoming Center for the Book at Wyoming Humanities invites students in grades 4-12 to enter **Letters About Literature**, a statewide writing competition. Students may compete in one of three levels: Grades 4-6, Grades 7-8, and Grades 9-12.

First place winners at each competition level will receive a \$150 Amazon gift card, second place winners will receive a \$100 Amazon gift card, and third place winners will receive a \$50 Amazon gift card. All winners and honorable mentions will receive a non-monetary award certificate.

HOW TO ENTER

READ: Select a fiction or nonfiction book, short story, poem, play, essay, or speech you've read and have strong feelings about. It might be a work that helped you through a difficult time, or it might be one that simply touched your heart or inspired you. (Sorry, no song lyrics!)

REFLECT: How did this author's work change you or your view of the world? Consider how it influenced your identity, or how you see your community and your place in it.

WRITE: Your entry should be written in the format of a personal letter to the author. It should include a date, greeting, body, and closing. **Please include a cover sheet with your name, school, town, book title and author name.** Write honestly, from your own perspective and reflect on how the author influenced you. This should be a personal letter, explaining how reading their work changed you. Support your ideas with specific details both from the book and from your life. This is NOT a fan letter, a book summary, or a letter about the author. Letters must be typed. DO NOT include your name, address, email, or phone number on the letter — that will go on your entry form and cover sheet.

ENTRY FORM: Complete the entry form and staple it to the front of your letter. This information is used to contact winners, so be sure the entry form is complete and legible. Letters without a form will be discarded.

SEND: Email your letter with the required entry form by the **January 31, 2023, deadline** to:

Lucas Fralick at lucas@thinkwy.org or call 307-721-9243 with any questions.

If email is unavailable, please reach out to figure out a way to get your letter in the contest.

TEACHERS' NOTES:

Please DO NOT ASSIGN A PARTICULAR WORK to students. Allow students to choose a piece of literature that speaks to them personally.



OFFICIAL RULES

Wyoming Letters About Literature 2022 is open to students in grades 4-12 who attend school in Wyoming or, if submitting individually and not as part of a class, are legal residents of Wyoming. Students may not enter in more than one state's Letters About Literature contest. Students must be in grades 4 through 12 during the 2022-23 school year. There will be three (3) Levels of competition: a) Level 1 for Grades 4-6, b) Level 2 for Grades 7-8, and c) Level 3 for Grades 9-12.

Entries must arrive between November 14, 2022 and January 31, 2023 (or be postmarked by January 31, 2023)

Students select a fiction or nonfiction book, short story, poem, essay, play, or speech (excluding song lyrics) that they have read and have strong feelings about. They then write a personal letter to the author of their selected piece explaining how the work changed the student's view of themselves or their world.

Entries must include a date, greeting, body of the letter, closing, and name/signature. Entries must NOT include a return address, email address, or phone number on the letter; this contact information must be provided on the entry form.

Each entry (a) must be the original creation of the submitting student; (b) must be previously unpublished and cannot have been submitted to any other competition; (c) must not infringe upon or violate the rights of any third party; and, by the act of submission, warrants and represents that the student (and parent/legal guardian if student is a minor) fully and completely conforms to the stated requirements for entry. It is the responsibility of the educator or individual submitting nominations to evaluate the submission materials and take appropriate action if the materials contain any expressions of the intent to self-harm, depression, or other sensitive subjects.

The educator or submitting individual should follow the policies of their school or educational institution in handling such matters or contact the appropriate local resources to follow up with the student and, if appropriate, with the students and parents or legal guardians, as the local policy and confidentiality guidelines permit. Submitting educators and individuals agree, by submitting materials to Letters About Literature, that they have reviewed the materials for this purpose and taken appropriate action.

By submitting an entry form, student and/or student's parent/legal guardian agree that portions of or entirety of the entry of selected winners including the student's name, city/town, school, grade, and letter may be published and used to promote the Wyoming Letters About Literature contest. All submitted entries become the sole property of the Wyoming Humanities and will not be acknowledged or returned; works may be shared by Wyoming Humanities online or in print. Limit one (1) entry per student. No other form of participation other than as state in these official rules is valid.

ENTRY FORM

Complete this form and send along with your letter. Please print legibly and complete both the top section and either the class or individual entry section.

Student Name _____ Age _____ Grade _____

Title of Work _____ Author _____

FOR CLASS ENTRIES	School/Library _____
	Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
	Teacher/Librarian Name & Signature (required) _____
	Email _____ Telephone _____

FOR INDIVIDUALS	<i>Fill out ONLY if you are submitting a letter individually. Otherwise, this section is optional.</i>
	Home Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
	Parent's/Guardian's Name & Signature (required) _____
	Email _____ Telephone _____