

Akron-Summit Holocaust Arts and Writing Contest
2023 Theme: ‘Lest We Forget: Preserving the Record of the Holocaust’
Entry Deadline February 3rd, 2023

WRITING REQUIREMENTS

This is what you *have* to do to enter the contest and have the best chance to win! You should check off this list as you work.

1. Choose to write **fiction** or **non-fiction**.
2. Choose your sources from “**Resource List**” <https://akronsummitholocausteducation.org/>. Do you want to use a history book, a biography, an interview, a museum, an article? Using resources listed on our webpage ensure that the information is accurate and reliable.
3. Use your research to develop your writing around the theme “**Lest We Forget: Preserving the Record of the Holocaust.**”
4. Use 12-point font, double spaced, page numbers, and limit the writing to less than 1,000 words.
5. **Include the title on every page.**
6. Create and include a “Works Cited” page that includes your sources. The “Works Cited” page does not need to follow any specific format and does not count as part of the word count.
7. Include a cover page with the title and the word count and **include the title on every page.**
8. Look over your work one last time and submit your final draft with the entry form! Google doc entries are the preferred and recommended way to submit entries.
9. Confirm receipt of entry with Administrator by the deadline of February 3rd, 2023.

WRITING GUIDELINES

This information will help you write and have the best chance to win! It might be helpful to read over this information before you start.

Theme: “Lest We Forget: Preserving the Record of the Holocaust”

- “**Lest We Forget**” means “**it should not be forgotten.**”
- This theme is meant to address the dwindling number of survivors and relatives of survivors able to speak directly to their experiences during the Holocaust or the experiences of their loved ones. **Ask yourself, how can I make sure people remember, learn, and take action?**
- **Show us Your Best Work:** Write a rough draft! Read and edit the rough draft. Write a final draft!
- What kind of paths can you take with this theme? **See some examples below.** You don’t have to use them, but they may help you get started:
 - Visit a museum or a memorial and write a reflection on how you felt and how it impacted you.

- Write a poem about the dangers of forgetting the past.
- Research the Holocaust and another genocide that happened in history or is happening today. Discuss how they are related and how they can be remembered.
- Write a story about a student from today and a student from the 1930's and 1940's and explore how different or similar their lives are and how this relates to the theme...
- Interview a survivor or a relative of a survivor and detail their experiences.
- Collect the first words your classmates think of when asked about the Holocaust and use them in a creative writing piece.
- Take a poll of people you know and test them on their knowledge of the Holocaust. Use that research in a research paper.

FICTION OR NONFICTION

- Writing entries may be **fiction** or **nonfiction**.
- **NONFICTION** writing is **true** and is grounded in **personal experience, primary research, or secondary research**.
 - Personal experience is something that happened to YOU; perhaps you visited a museum or memorial, you could describe how you felt or what you learned.
 - Primary research is conducted by YOU; perhaps you interviewed a survivor of the Holocaust or an expert about the Holocaust.
 - Secondary research is when you use research conducted by SOMEONE ELSE; perhaps you read a biography, a history book, or a poem by someone who experienced the Holocaust.
 - Examples of NON-FICTION works include a newspaper type article about events of the holocaust **or** a research paper based on events of the time or based on your primary and/or secondary research. It is based in fact, not opinion.
- **FICTION** writing is **not true** but should still be **based on research** for this contest. Fiction writing can include all kinds of writing and formats, namely short stories, poetry, plays, and other creative writings.

Maximum of one Visual Art and one Written Entry per Student

SCORING FOR WRITING ENTRIES

- Fiction and nonfiction entries will be scored as different categories this year. A student may only enter **one** writing category. However, there are 2 different contests for each category (Division I Writing (6th-8th grade) and Division II Writing (9th-12th grade)). You are competing against your similar age peers.
- To qualify for scoring, writing entries **must** meet the requirements listed above.
- Writing entries are scored according to **originality, clarity, and craftsmanship**.
 - Originality refers to what extent the work is original or unique.

- Clarity refers to how well the theme is clear and present in the work.
- Craftsmanship refers to the quality of the spelling, grammar, punctuation, and writing technique.
- All entries are judged blindly, meaning the judges do not know the name(s) of the author or the name of the school that student attends.
- If a student enters a visual art and writing piece, they may only win in **one category**. In the rare event a student places in more than one category the prize received will be determined by a committee composed of board members of the Akron-Summit Council on Holocaust and Genocide Education.