

YOUNG GEORGIA AUTHORS WRITING COMPETITION

The purpose of this statewide competition, sponsored by the Georgia Department of Education, is to encourage students to develop enthusiasm for—and expertise in—their writing; to provide a context to celebrate their writing successes; and to recognize student achievement in the arts and academics.

You may submit a maximum of TWO entries; each requires a separate completed entry form.

Bring your entry AND parent-signed completed application on the back of this document to your ELA teacher, Mr. Custar, or the front office by 4:15pm on Thursday, February 6th!

WHAT TO WRITE

Unlike many writing competitions, the YGA does not provide a prompt to which students must respond. **NOTE:** *Students may submit a maximum of TWO entries.* These are the only criteria for entry:

1. The entry you submit must be **yours alone**: it must be wholly your own work, without the help of others and without collaborative effort.
2. Your submission must be 1900 words or fewer.
3. You'll need to follow a few key formatting protocols. **Please see below for FORMATTING RULES.**

Entries may include:

- Short stories
- Poetry
- Essays
- Literary criticism / analysis
- Journalism
- Academic writing
- Research reports
- Personal narratives
- Dramatic writing
- ***Any other type of original student writing!***

FORMATTING RULES

1. Your entry must be typed in a **standard font** (Times New Roman or similar)
2. Prose writings (non-drama, non-poetry) should be **double-spaced**
3. Your entry should be **printed single-sided**
4. **Neither your name nor the name of our school** should be included in your entry
5. Make sure to **staple a completed entry form** to each individual submission
6. Aside from that one staple, **do not bind, make a cover for, decorate, laminate, or otherwise alter the original paper** on which the entry is written.

NOTE: The physical entry you submit will NOT be returned to you!

SCORING

Your work will be evaluated by a team of ELA teachers here at Innovation Academy using criteria set forth by the state (expression of ideas, language use, and unique perspective/voice); one winning entry per grade level will advance to the county competition, and the winning works at that level will go on to the final state round. Contact Mr. Custar if you'd like more specific information regarding scoring. School-level winners will be announced on Teams by February 20th.

Scores will NOT be disclosed to anyone outside the scoring team.

Questions? Concerns? Email Mr. Custar (custar@fultonschools.org) or talk to your ELA teacher!

2024-2025 ENTRY FORM

YOUNG GEORGIA AUTHORS WRITING COMPETITION

All entries must be **COMPLETE** and **LEGIBLE**.

RESA Number 4

School District: Fulton County Schools

District Coordinator: Kelley Webb

District Contact Phone Number: 470-254-0465

Email: webbk@fultonschools.org

Title of Student Work: _____

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Student Home Address: _____

Street/P.O. Box City Zip

School Principal: Scott Kent

Email: KentS@fultonschools.org

School Name (not abbreviations): Innovation Academy

School Mailing Address: 125 Milton Ave, Alpharetta GA, 30009

REQUIRED SIGNATURES

By signing below, I affirm this writing entry is my own original, unassisted work. This work has not been published online prior to or during this academic year. I agree to have my work entered into the Young Georgia Authors Writing Competition to represent my grade for my local school system.

Student Signature

Date

*By signing below, I affirm that I give my permission for the work of the above-named student author, for whom I am the **parent/guardian**, to be entered into the Young Georgia Authors Writing Competition, and for that work to be shared and/or published by the Georgia Department of Education and/or the Georgia Language Arts Supervisors for non-profit purposes.*

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

*By signing below, I affirm that I am a **system level administrator** and am coordinating the entry of all winning student work from this system for the Young Georgia Authors Competition. I affirm that the work of the above-named student author has been chosen to represent this system for the grade level indicated.*

District Level Administrator Signature

Date

* Unsigned or incomplete forms will cause the attached entry to be disqualified. Attach this completed form to the top of each student entry, along with one photocopy of the entry. Remove the student's name and school from the entry itself. Label the top of each page of the entry with the student's initials, grade level, and RESA number. Please make a copy of the entry before submitting. Entries will not be returned.