

WRITING PROJECT & COMPETITION

for writers of all abilities – ages 18 and up.

**Get involved...get creative...
get published... win prize money!**



Novice and experienced writers of fiction, nonfiction and poetry are invited to submit their work to the **All Pikes Peak Reads Journal** competition. Themes have been selected from *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley for this project, and the top three entries in each genre will be included in a publication along with commemorative photos and information about APPR 2003. Cash prizes will be awarded and winners will be recognized at the APPR MONSTER BALL, October 19, 3 p.m., Colorado Springs Historic City Auditorium, 221 E. Kiowa.

NOTE: Writers competition guidelines and submission details can also be found online at ppld.org, click on the APPR icon.

Looking for a Writing Mentor?

Aspiring poetry, fiction, and nonfiction writers can receive assistance from a local professional writer or instructor. Your mentor can help you fine-tune your submission and make sure you are following the contest submission rules.

If you are interested in finding a mentor OR

If you are interested in attending a Saturday afternoon writing workshop at the Downtown Studio of Pikes Peak Community College, please contact Larry Giddings at 719.540.2631 or larry.giddings@ppcc.edu.

Contest Structure

Writers of fiction, nonfiction and poetry should select a theme from the section below and create their work around it. *Provided that a minimum of 10 entries are received per genre*, a first, second and third place winner from each will be selected for inclusion in the 2003 All Pikes Peak Reads Journal. Prizes in the amount of \$500.00 for first place, \$250.00 for second place and \$100.00 for third place will be awarded. Winners will be asked to read their entry or an excerpt from it at the APPR MONSTER BALL at the Colorado Springs Historic City Auditorium, 221 E. Kiowa St. on October 19th. Readings will be held in the Auditorium Café at 2 p.m.

Themes

RESPONSIBILITY: Exercising conscience and accountability to self and society.

THE RESPONSIBLE CREATOR

“So much has been done...more, far more, will I achieve: treading in the steps already marked, I will pioneer a new way, explore unknown powers, and unfold to the world the deepest mysteries of creation.” Victor Frankenstein

If we create, what does it mean? What is the responsibility of the creator: to society, to the creation, to the scientific process?

Should boundaries be applied to freedom of expression and one’s right to create? Does society determine the boundaries and the value of artistic creation?

THE RESPONSIBLE BEING

"All men hate the wretched; how, then, must I be hated, who am miserable beyond all living things!" The creature

What does Frankenstein say about our personal responsibility to society, to the future, and in our inter-personal relationships?

How are monsters defined, and by whom?

What is the role of knowledge in determining personal responsibility?

What does the text say about the responsibility of society in raising a child? Have changes to traditional family structure affected parental responsibility?

WHAT IS A MONSTER?

In the volumes of criticism written about Frankenstein since it was first published, the monster has been equated to many social and cultural phenomena. Write about one of the following correlations: Industrial Revolution, the French Mob, Atom Bomb, Age of Computers, Dictatorships or Totalitarian Regimes, Mass Media.

IT'S ALIVE...and well in Hollywood

Courtesy of Murray Ross, Artistic Director, TheatreWorks of Colorado Springs

Most people know more about Hollywood's version of the monster Frankenstein than they do about the creature from the novel. How has the monster changed in the retelling of Mary Shelley's tale?

Mary Shelley excludes virtually all comedy from her monstrous, tragic story, yet each time we retell the story we tend to smile or laugh. Why does the tale both prohibit and invite humor?

How do the numerous retellings of the classic novel disclose and distort its essential character?

Submission Information

Contest submissions must be received by 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 1, at any Pikes Peak Library District facility, or by mail to: All Pikes Peak Reads, East Library, 5550 N. Union Blvd., Colorado Springs CO 80918.

Contest submissions will be subject to the following parameters:

Poetry

A single submission not to exceed 250 words

Fiction

Short story, not to exceed 2,500 words

Non-Fiction

Personal or short essay, commentary, memoir not to exceed 2,500 words

*Submit two copies, 8 ½ x 11, typed double spaced in 12-point Courier Font. Each page must have the title and page number in the upper left-hand corner. Include a title page with **title of work only**, and a 3" x 5" note card with title of work, genre, theme chosen, and writer's contact information including name, phone and address.*

Judging Criteria

All submissions will be screened for adherence to the above guidelines. Those in compliance will then be assigned a number and entered into the judging process. Each submission will be read by a pair of judges who will then assign a point value to the submission based on the following criteria:

1-5 points for **Treatment of Theme**. Is the theme selected by the author easily identifiable and evident throughout the work.

1-5 points for **Use of Language**. Does the submission exhibit these traits by genre? For Fiction: originality, imagery, continuity of voice. For Poetry: lyricism, rhythm and syntax. For Nonfiction: resonance, detail, structure.

1-5 points for **Connection Between Writer and Reader**. Has the author established an emotional and/or intellectual bond with the reader through the norms of the genre, such as dialog, characters and setting?

1-5 points for **Conventions of the Language**. Allowing for artistic license in dialog and style, does the writer demonstrate a command of the language and the standards of the genre?

The total value possible per entry is 20 points.



Contact Information:

If you have questions regarding the APPR Writing Project and Competition, please email appr@ppld.org or call 531-6333, x1221.