## **42nd Annual Creative Writing Contest**

September 2024

Dear School Administrator:

It is time once again to prepare for the AACS Creative Writing Contest for elementary (grades 4–6) and junior high (grades 7–8) students. We trust that your school will participate in this year's contest.

Enclosed are the rules and a copy of each judging sheet. Schools should submit the student's original work. It should not be marked on in any manner. Please note that an expectation has been added to the rules and the judging forms (rule 4)—Student entries are not required to be spiritual in nature or application. Content should be wholesome and within the boundaries of appropriate Christian thought and behavior (Phil. 4:8). Vulgarity, sexual inuendoes, crass humor, dark subject matter, distasteful, and biblically objectionable content are not appropriate. In addition, please make two (2) photocopies and two (2) judging sheets (fill in the level, name, school, city, state, grade, title, number of words, and signed statement of originality) for each of the four entries.

You will select one poetry winner and one short story winner on the elementary level (grades 4–6), and one poetry winner and one short story winner on the junior high level (grades 7–8). (Please note: The junior high competition is limited to grades 7 and 8, since 9th-grade students can compete in the AACS National Competition, which includes creative writing.) *A student may enter only one category—either short story or poetry*. These four entries are the only entries that you send to your state office for judging.

Please prepare your shipment as follows from the top down for each entry. Five items are required for each entry:

- The first judging sheet (fill in the level, name, school, city, state, grade, title, number of words, and signed statement of originality). Student will be penalized if the judging sheet is not correctly completed, including title, number of words, and signed statement of originality.
- 2. The first photocopy
- 3. The second judging sheet
- 4. The second photocopy
- 5. The original

We look forward to another exciting contest as students use their God-given skills. *Only schools that have submitted their 2024–2025 membership application and proper membership dues are eligible to compete in the 2024–2025 Creative Writing Contest.* 

All entries must be submitted to your state office by December 9, 2024. (This date may vary by state. Please contact your state office for exact deadline for your state.) National winners are announced in April.

Sincerely,

Jeff Walton
AACS Executive Director