

# WOMEN Writing the West

## Contact Information:

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 1, 2022 to October 1, 2022

### Women Writing the West Announces Inaugural High School Writing Contest

Go West, Young Writer!

Women Writing the West is sponsoring its inaugural High School Writing Contest and would like to invite your teenage students in grades 9 through 12 (ages 13 to 19) to participate.

Women Writing the West is an international organization of writers and other professionals who write and promote writing about the North American West with emphasis on the experiences of western women and girls. We would like to extend an invitation to our younger writers to send a short story, poem or song, or nonfiction/journalism piece that fits the contest qualifications.

All entries should deal with women or girls in the West, defined as anywhere in North America west of the Mississippi River (this does include Alaska, Hawaii, Canada west of Ontario, and Mexico). Short fiction should be between 1,500 and 2,000 words. Nonfiction should be 500 to 700 words. Poetry should be limited to 25 lines (or three haiku poems); songs should have two verses and a chorus (a bridge is optional).

The contest deadline will be October 1, 2022.

Three pieces will be chosen in each category and writers will be awarded a monetary prize along with publication on the Women Writing the West website. First place will be awarded \$50; second place, \$25; and honorable mention, \$10. When finalists in each category are announced, they may send in a short (30 second) video introducing themselves and their writing to be shown at the annual WWW Conference in October.

Students of any gender may enter this contest, if the guidelines are followed.

More information about the contest can be found on the WWW website at <https://www.womenwritingthewest.org/awards/www-high-school-writing-contest/>

You can also download and print our poster, which can be displayed in your school and will give students a direct link back to the website.

We look forward to hearing from your young writers.