

# NJCTE High School Writing Contest

## The New Jersey Council of Teachers of English

Invites New Jersey students in Grades 9-12 to participate in its 2022

“Meaningful Reflections-2022” Writing Contest

Categories

Poetry (one poem, 50-line maximum)      Short Story (5-page maximum double-spaced)

Essay\* (5-page maximum, double-spaced) – MUST RESPOND TO PROMPT BELOW

**DEADLINE FRIDAY 12-30-22 11:59PM**

In 2020 and 2021 people were forced to rethink and reflect on what is meaningful and necessary in their life. How did you, your family, school or community decide what is meaningful and necessary in life? People have come through the challenge of the pandemic to be met by a seeming multitude of viral variants. The pandemic caused people to change priorities and become reflective. People took inventory of in-person vs hybrid classroom experiences, personal lives, concepts, and overall determined what *is meaningful* in 2022. As you compose your narrative reflect on your social, emotional, cultural, and political voices that motivate you to define *meaningful*. Write a narrative essay account, short story or poem that lets the reader experience what motivates you or presents a meaningful reflection as a 2022 high school student.

### How to enter:

1. Visit our web-site at <http://www.njcte.org/writing-contest> and follow the instructions provided. Only New Jersey high school students (public or private) are eligible to enter.

Poetry Submission Link: <https://www.formpl.us/form/6401297576230912>

Personal Essay Submission Link: <https://www.formpl.us/form/5662283055366144>

Short Story Submission Link: <https://www.formpl.us/form/5171111568474112>

### Tips to Avoid Disqualification:

1. Students may submit a maximum of one entry in each category (i.e. one poem, one short story and one essay).
2. Teachers may submit up to **ten** entries for their students in each genre. Surplus entries will be disqualified in order of submission date.
3. The file submitted must be anonymous. Essays, short stories and poems with a student’s name, school or class typed on them or within the document will be disqualified.

### Awards:

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|--|----------|-------------|
| 1st Place Gold Winners in poetry, short story and personal essay=medal and     | \$150.00 | prize money |
| 2nd Place Silver Winners in poetry, short story and personal essay = medal and | \$ 75.00 | prize money |
| 3rd Place Bronze Winners in poetry, short story and personal essay = medal and | \$ 50.00 | prize money |

**Gold medalists are eligible for the Governor’s Awards in Arts Education (GAAE).**

Winners will be notified during March 2023. Questions: [njctewriting@gmail.com](mailto:njctewriting@gmail.com).