

Writers Block

International Writing Competition

2012 Official Entry Form

Name _____ (Please sign and date Signature Page)

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip _____

Country _____

Title of entry (English) _____

Date Completed _____ Number of Pages _____

Scripts:

Short Screenplay Feature Length Screenplay Short Stage Play

Feature Length Stage Play Short Teleplay Feature Length Teleplay

Manuscripts:

Micro-Fiction Flash Fiction Short Story Novellette

Novella Novel Epics and Sequels

Briefly describe your entry:

How did you hear about the Writers Block International Writing Competition?

Entry Fees: U.S. Currency only payable to **Great Lakes Film Association**

Personal Check International Postal Money Order
 Money Order Cashiers Check

FEES, DEADLINES and RULES:

By submitting your film to this competition you acknowledge that you have read, fully understand and agree to all of the below terms of submission and rules.

Short Length Script:

\$25.00 if postmarked by March 10, 2012 (U.S. Currency only)
\$35.00 if postmarked by July 14, 2012 (U.S. Currency only)
\$45.00 if postmarked by October 20, 2012 (U.S. Currency only)
\$55.00 if postmarked by November 10, 2012 (U.S. Currency only) Withoutabox entries ONLY

Feature Length Script:

\$35.00 if postmarked by March 10, 2012 (U.S. Currency only)
\$45.00 if postmarked by July 14, 2012 (U.S. Currency only)
\$55.00 if postmarked by October 20, 2012 (U.S. Currency only)
\$65.00 if postmarked by November 10, 2012 (U.S. Currency only) Withoutabox entries ONLY

ABSOLUTELY NO INTERNATIONAL CHECKS, WIRE TRANSFERS, OR MONEY GRAMS WILL BE ACCEPTED. For all entries submitted outside the United States, we will only accept payment for submission fees in the form of INTERNATIONAL POSTAL MONEY ORDERS

Category Descriptions & Rules:

Competition Eligibility:

Must be 18 years of age or older
The entered script must not be or previously been optioned, sold, or produced

Scriptwriting Rules:

Any genre considered
Scripts must be original work of the author
Multiple authorship is allowed. If the script wins, the writers will divide the prize.
Multiple entries are allowed, but their own completed entry form and their own appropriate entry fee must accompany each entry.
No corrected pages or additional pages will be accepted after the script has been entered.

Script Guidelines:

Submitted Scripts must be in English.
Do not send originals, scripts will not be returned.
Scripts must be in industry standard format and bound with 2 or 3 brads unless submitted electronically as an Adobe PDF or Word File.
Body pages must be correctly numbered.
Script title page should only contain name of screenplay.
Must be on white paper.
Covers must be card stock only

Teleplay Rules:

Teleplays must be original material. We will not accept spec scripts for existing shows, treatments or reality television pilots.

Teleplays must be hour or half-hour or one hour pilots. Additional material will not be read or considered.

Teleplays must not have been previously optioned, purchased or produced.

Script Length:

- Feature Length scripts 70 pages or more
- Shorts length scripts 69 pages or less
- Teleplay Feature Length scripts no more than 60 pages
- Teleplay Short Length Scripts no more than 30 pages
- Stage Play Full Length scripts 50 pages or more
- Stage Play Short Length Scripts 49 pages or less

Manuscripts Word Count:

- Micro-Fiction up to 100 words
- Flash Fiction 101 - 1,000 words
- Short Story 1,001 - 7,500 words
- Novellette 7,501 - 20,000 words
- Novella 20,001 - 50,000 words
- Novel 50,001 - 110,000 words
- Epics and Sequels Over 110,000 words

Short Length Manuscript:

- Micro-Fiction up to 100 words
- Flash Fiction 101 - 1,000 words
- Short Story 1,001 - 7,500 words
- Novellette 7,501 - 20,000 words

Full Length Manuscript:

- Novella 20,001 - 50,000 words
- Novel 50,001 - 110,000 words
- Epics and Sequels Over 110,000 words

Manuscript Category Summary:**Micro-Fiction**

This very abbreviated story is often difficult to write, and even harder to write well, but the markets for micro fiction are becoming increasingly popular in recent times. Publishers love them, as they take up almost no room and don't cost them their budgets. Pay rates are often low, but for so few words, the rate per word averages quite high.

Flash Fiction

This is the type of short-short story you would expect to find in a glossy magazine, often used to fill one page of quick romance (*or quick humor, in men's mags*) Very popular, quick and easy to write, and easier to sell!

Short Story

The 'regular' short story, usually found in periodicals or anthology collections. Most 'genre' zines will feature works at this length

Novellette

Often a novellette-length work is difficult to sell to a publisher. It is considered too long for most publishers to insert comfortably into a magazine, yet too short for a novel. Generally, authors will piece together three or four novellette-length works into a compilation novel.

Novella

Although most print publishers will balk at printing a novel this short, this is almost perfect for the electronic publishing market length. The online audience doesn't always have the time or the patience to sit through a 100,000 word novel. Alternatively, this is an acceptable length for a short work of non-fiction.

Novel

Most print publishers prefer a minimum word count of around 70,000 words for a first novel, and some even hesitate for any work shorter than 80,000. Yet any piece of fiction climbing over the 110,000 word mark also tends to give editors some pause. They need to be sure they can produce a product that won't over-extend their budget, but still be enticing enough to readers to be saleable. Imagine paying good money for a book less than a quarter-inch thick?

Epics and Sequels

If your story extends too far over the 110,000 mark, perhaps consider where you could either condense the story to only include relevant details, or lengthen it to span out into a sequel, or perhaps even a trilogy. (Unless, of course, you're Stephen King - then it doesn't matter what length your manuscript is - a publisher is a little more lenient with an established author who has a well-established readership)

Manuscript Page Counts:

In most cases, industry standard preferred length is 250 words per page... so a 400 page novel would be at about 100,000 words. If you want to see what size book is selling in your genre, take a look on the shelves. If the average length is 300 pages, you're looking at a 75,000 word manuscript (*approximately*)

One reason it's harder for a new author to sell a 140,000 word manuscript is the size of the book. A 500+ page book is going to take up the space of almost two, 300 page books on the shelves. It's also going to cost more for the publishers to produce, so unless the author is well known, the book stores aren't going to stock that many copies of the 'door-stopper' novel as compared to the thinner novel.

Remember, these word- and page-counts are only estimated guides. Use your own common sense. Most novels are generally considered on the strength of the story itself, not on how many words you have squeezed into each chapter.

If your script is selected for both Best of Category and as the First Place Winner of the Script Competition, you will **ONLY** be eligible to receive one Cash Award Prize of \$2500. Any script selected as both Best of Category and First Place Competition Winner, the foresaid winning script of both prizes shall forfeit the Best of Category \$500 award payment.

All entries must be postmarked no later than the appropriate entry deadline they were submitted under. Additional entry fee will be required if not postmarked by the appropriate deadline. Entries received with uncompleted information will not be considered.

PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW ALL BELOW INSTRUCTIONS

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Checks returned to us will incur a standard \$25 fee that must be paid, even if you choose to pull your script from the competition.

Script selections will be announced no later than December 15, 2012

Not following the guidelines, rules, regulations, or eligibility may be cause for disqualification.

General. By entering this Contest, entrants agree to abide by the terms of these Official Rules, which are final and binding on all matters pertaining to this Contest. All federal, state, and local laws and regulations apply. All taxes (including, without limitation, federal, state, and local taxes) on or connected with any prize (including, without limitation, prizes that are opportunities to make donations to a charitable organization), and the reporting consequences thereof, are the sole and exclusive responsibility of respective winners. Each Winner must, if so requested by Promoter, complete Promoter's winner verification process and/or execute and return an Affidavit of Eligibility and a Liability/Publicity Release within a period of time required by Promoter. All prizes awarded in connection with the Contest are nontransferable and nonendorseable. No substitution of prizes is permitted. The Promoter or Host's employees or agents or representatives may view all Concepts in the interest of providing technical assistance to Contestants. Technical questions may be referred to Host for assistance at Promoter's discretion. Dates of official announcements are subject to change. Release, Waiver and Indemnification. BY ENTERING THE CONTEST, ENTRANTS RELEASE AND HOLD THE PROMOTER AND HOST AND ALL OTHER CONTEST ENTITIES HARMLESS FROM AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL LOSSES, DAMAGES, RIGHTS, CLAIMS, AND ACTIONS OF ANY KIND ARISING IN WHOLE OR IN PART, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, FROM THE CONTEST OR PARTICIPATION IN ANY CONTEST-RELATED ACTIVITY (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THE REMOVAL FROM THE SITE OF, OR DISCONTINUATION OF ACCESS TO, ANY SUBMISSION OR OTHER MATERIAL), OR RESULTING DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY FROM ACCEPTANCE, POSSESSION, USE, OR MISUSE OF ANY PRIZE AWARDED IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONTEST, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH, AND/OR PROPERTY DAMAGE, AS

WELL AS CLAIMS BASED ON PUBLICITY RIGHTS, DEFAMATION, AND/OR INVASION OF PRIVACY. THE PROMOTER, THE HOST AND CONTEST ENTITIES DO NOT NOW AND SHALL NOT HAVE IN THE FUTURE ANY DUTY OR LIABILITY, DIRECT OR INDIRECT, VICARIOUS, CONTRIBUTORY, OR OTHERWISE, WITH RESPECT TO THE INFRINGEMENT OR PROTECTION OF AN ENTRANT'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS, IF ANY, RESPECT TO ANY SUBMISSION OR CONCEPT, REVIEWS, MATERIAL, VIDEO AND/OR OTHER MATERIALS PROVIDED IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONTEST. BY ENTERING THE CONTEST, ENTRANTS RELEASE, WAIVE ANY CLAIMS WITH REGARD TO, AND HOLD HARMLESS THE PROMOTER, THE HOST AND THE CONTEST ENTITIES FROM AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL CLAIMS OF ANY KIND THAT ARE OR COULD BE ASSERTED WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER RELATING TO THE CONTEST. ENTRANTS FURTHER AGREE TO INDEMNIFY, DEFEND AND HOLD THE PROMOTER, HOST AND ALL OTHER CONTEST ENTITIES HARMLESS FROM ANY AND ALL DAMAGES, LIABILITIES, FEES AND COST INCURRED IN DEFENDING AGAINST ANY THIRD PARTY CLAIMS OR THREATS OF CLAIMS ASSERTED AGAINST PROMOTER, HOST AND/OR OTHER CONTEST ENTITIES ARISING FROM ANY ENTRANT'S PARTICIPATION IN OR CONDUCT ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONTEST.

Force Majeure. Nonperformance of any party shall be excused to the extent that performance is rendered impossible by strike, fire, flood, earthquakes, war, governmental acts or orders or restrictions, or any other reason where failure to perform is beyond the reasonable control, and not caused by the negligence of, the nonperforming party. Governing Law and Waiver of Damages. The Contest and these Official Rules are governed by and shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, United States of America, without regards to its principles of conflicts of law. For any dispute not subject to arbitration according to Section 4(g) above, entrant agrees to personal jurisdiction by the federal and state courts located in Erie, Pennsylvania, United States of America, and waives any jurisdictional, venue, or inconvenient forum objections to such courts. Further, in any such dispute, under no circumstances will entrant be permitted to obtain awards for, and hereby irrevocably waives all rights to claim, punitive, incidental, or consequential damages, or any other damages, including attorneys' fees, other than participant's actual out-of-pocket expenses (i.e., costs associated with participating in the Contest), and entrant further irrevocably waives all rights to have damages multiplied or increased.

Privacy. Information submitted in connection with the Contest will be treated in accordance with these Official Rules and the Site's Privacy Policy, provided that in the event of any conflict between these Official Rules and such Privacy Policy, the terms and conditions of these Official Rules shall prevail. All Contestants and Team Members hereby acknowledge and agree that Promoter will have access to some or all of their personally identifiable information, including but not limited to registration information collected by the Host.

Signature and Date _____

Print Name(s) _____

- 1.) Send scripts along with completed entry form and fee.
- 2.) Please do NOT send originals. NO Entries will be returned
- 3.) All entries will be notified of receipt of entry by e-mail.

SEND ALL MATERIALS (completed and signed entry form, entry fee, and script, and supporting materials) to:

**Writers Block International Writing Competition
PO Box 346
Erie PA 16512**