

## PLEASE NOTE:

- A panel of judges will select the winners based on creativity, grammar, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, neatness, and attention to detail.
- Winners and Honorable Mentions (up to 3 of each) will be selected in four categories:
  - Grades 1 & 2
  - Grades 3 & 4
  - Grades 5 & 6
  - Past Winners
- Winners will be notified by letter in April 2026. If your book is not chosen, we will return it by mail.
- Everyone will receive a certificate of participation.
- We will honor the winners at a special ceremony in late Spring 2026.
- The winning books will be bound and added as a permanent part of the Children's Department collection.
- Winners & Honorable Mentions will also have the opportunity to purchase professionally-bound copies of their book.

# WRITE AND ILLUSTRATE YOUR OWN BOOK CONTEST

at Schlow Library



# 42ND ANNUAL WRITE AND ILLUSTRATE YOUR OWN BOOK CONTEST

*Sponsored by the Children's Department of  
Schlow Centre Region Library*

**Please submit your entry between  
Monday, January 5, 2026 and Tuesday, March 3, 2026.**

## **Young Writers Workshop** **Find out what the Write And Illustrate Your Own Book Contest judges are looking for!**

**Improve your writing skills and discuss mistakes to avoid.  
If you plan to stay for a brief personal evaluation after the  
class, please prepare questions or ideas ahead of time or  
bring one or two pages of your story for review.**

The Young Writers Workshop is typically offered during the fall and spring semesters. Please check the Children's Department calendar or our website calendar at [schlowlibrary.org](http://schlowlibrary.org) for dates and to register.



## CONTEST RULES

*You must follow these rules or your entry will be disqualified!*

1. Books may be submitted in print at the library or digitally as a pdf to [children@schlowlibrary.org](mailto:children@schlowlibrary.org)
2. Complete and submit the Contest Entry Form with your book. Find it at [schlowlibrary.org/bookcontest](http://schlowlibrary.org/bookcontest)
3. You may be the author/illustrator of only one entry. Two children may collaborate on one book as co-authors or as author and illustrator.
4. You must be in grades 1-6 and also be a resident of Centre County and/or attend school in Centre County.
5. Title page must include book title, name, grade, and school of the author and/or illustrator.
6. Parents may assist with proofreading and typing, but not with writing.
7. Use only one side of the paper. Include page numbers in the bottom right corner (excluding the cover and title page). Your book must be neatly printed or typed on plain white paper.
8. All artwork and photographs must be the original work of the author or illustrator. Do not glue or attach illustrations to the page in any way.
9. Book pages must be 8.5 x 11 inches or less. Keep one-inch margins on all sides of all pages. If you win, your book cannot be bound without this space.
10. Use only a clip or folder to keep the book together - no staples, report covers, or binders.
11. If you have written your book as part of a creative writing class project, your teacher should submit it in a group envelope. The class must include a list of authors and illustrators, book titles, teacher's name, and the name and phone number of the school. Each student will need to include parents' contact information and create a title page for their book (as described in #5 above).
12. Only works of creative writing will be accepted. Imagination encouraged!
13. Detailed descriptions of extreme and graphic violence are unacceptable.