

Long Island Outdoor Communicators Network and The Fisherman Magazine

Proudly Announce

The 2009 Youth Essay Writing Contest

Do you love to fish? Do you enjoy the outdoors? Do you love to write? If so, then this is your opportunity to combine those interests and take a chance on winning one of a number of exciting prizes. Submit your best essay and you might also see it published in The Fisherman. But there's a catch. To be eligible, you must be a Long Island student currently enrolled in the 2009 school year and in any of the grades 1 through 12.

The Long Island Outdoor Communicators Network and The Fisherman Magazine have joined forces to sponsor the contest. The goal is to encourage essay writing as a means to introduce children and young adults to the core values, benefits, traditions and enjoyment of fishing and other outdoors activities, and to perpetuate and enhance fundamental writing skills among the current and next generations of America's youth.

Eligibility

The contest will be open to all Long Island students enrolled in Elementary School, Middle School or High School for the 2009 calendar year. There are four eligibility categories.

Elementary Category A (Grades 1 through 3)

Elementary Category B (Grades 4 through 6)

Junior Category (Grades 7 through 9)

Senior Category (Grades 10 through 12)

Contest Format

There is a minimum word count by entry category: Elementary Category A - Grades 1 and 2 - 60 words, Grade 3 - 75 words; Elementary Category B - 200 words minimum; Junior Category - 350 words minimum; Senior Category - 500 words minimum.

Maximum length for an essay will not exceed 1,000 words.

Contest Themes (choose only one theme)

1. My Favorite Fishing Story
2. What Fishing Means to Me
3. How My Generation Help Conserve the World's Fish Populations

Contest Rules

1. Essay submissions may be hand written, typed or produced via word processing, and may be submitted in hard copy form or email. Typed or word processed entries must be double-spaced. All hand written entries must be neat and legible. A Contest Entry Form must accompany the submission. Email entries should be sent to SaltyFlyLIF@aol.com, and hard copies mailed to Writing Contest, The Fisherman Magazine, 14 Ramsey Road, Shirley, NY 11967.
2. All entries must conform to the chosen theme and represent the original ideas of the participant. Essays will be judged on the merits of creativity, originality and writing skills. Plagiarism is grounds for disqualification from the contest.
3. Only essays pertaining to the designated contest themes will be accepted.
4. Only one submission per contestant will be accepted.
5. Submission must be received no later than August/31/2009.
6. First, second and third place prizes will be awarded for each contest category, with one of the four first place contestants being awarded the overall contest Grand Prize. Certificates of merit will be awarded to the top ten entries in each category.
7. All winning entries will be published in an issue of The Fisherman Magazine, and at the discretion of the editorial management of the magazine.
8. All decisions of the contest judges are final.

**Long Island Outdoor Communicators Network/ The Fisherman Magazine
2009 Essay Writing Contest**

**Contest Entry Form
This form must accompany entry**

Name: _____

Name of School: _____

Please check one Category: Elementary A (Grades 1 through 3)

Elementary B (Grades 4 through 6)

Junior (Grades 7 through 9)

Senior (Grades 10 through 12)

Age: _____ **Grade in School:** _____

Essay Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Town: _____

Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ **Email:** _____

Signature: _____

Submission Deadline: August 31, 2009

Email entries to: SaltyflyLIF@aol.com

Include **2009 Essay Contest** in the subject line of the email.

Hard Copy Entries to: Writing Contest

The Fisherman Magazine

14 Ramsey Road, Shirley, NY 11967