



...a Place for Writers

## ANNUAL WRITING CONTESTS Short Stories, Both True and Imagined & The Elizabeth Bolton Poetry Contest

**Deadline for both contests: August 15, 2011 (postmarked)**

All winners are invited to read from their entries at 2011 OWC Presents: The Winners, in the fall.

Short Stories, Both True and Imagined Final Judge: to be announced	The Elizabeth Bolton Poetry Contest Final Judge: to be announced
Short Story (both fiction and non-fiction) Awards	Poetry Awards
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ First: \$200, Second: \$100, Third: \$50, First Honorable Mention Awarded a Certificate of Achievement.</li> <li>▶ Additional Honorable Mentions credited in <i>OWC Colonygram</i> and on OWC website.</li> <li>▶ First place winners are featured on the cover of the <i>Colonygram</i>. All winners listed inside <i>Colonygram</i> and on the OWC website.</li> <li>▶ Winners are invited to read from their winning entry at the awards ceremony.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ First: \$100, Second: \$50, Third: \$25</li> <li>▶ First, Second and Third prize poems will be published in <i>OWC Colonygram</i>. All winners listed in the <i>Colonygram</i> and on the OWC website</li> <li>▶ Winners are invited to read their winning entry at the awards ceremony.</li> </ul>
<b>Short Story Contest Rules</b>	<b>Poetry contest rules</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Original, unpublished short story, fiction or nonfiction.</li> <li>▶ Word limit: 2500 maximum.</li> <li>▶ Fee per entry: \$10/OWC member, \$15/non-member \$10 <i>optional</i> fee for judges' constructive critiques.</li> <li>▶ Standard manuscript format (double-spaced, one-inch margins, 12pt. Courier or Times Roman font).</li> <li>▶ Title, word count and category (fiction, nonfiction) on first page.</li> <li>▶ <u>No author name on story</u>. This is an anonymous contest</li> <li>▶ Multiple entries are permitted.</li> <li>▶ One entry per submission packet.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Up to three poems per entry, any form or style, original and unpublished.</li> <li>▶ Fee per entry: \$10/OWC member, \$15/non-member.</li> <li>▶ <u>No author name on poems</u>. This is an anonymous contest.</li> <li>▶ Multiple entries are permitted.</li> <li>▶ One entry (up to three poems) per submission packet.</li> </ul>
<b>Short Story Submission Packet Must Include:</b>	<b>Poetry Submission Packet Must Include:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Four stapled copies of one entry. (Please keep originals; entries will not be returned.)</li> <li>▶ One business envelope, labeled fiction or nonfiction, with the following inside:</li> <li>▶ Check for entry fee. (May be combined with optional critique fee.)</li> <li>▶ 3x5 card (please no odd-sized cards) with 1. Category (fiction, nonfiction) 2. Entry title, 3. Name, address, phone, email 4. OWC member or non-member 5. How you heard about this contest - online or where? 6. Critique request if you include optional critique fee.</li> <li>▶ SASP (Self-addressed stamped postcard for receipt and your peace of mind)</li> <li>▶ # 10 SASE if you request judges' constructive critiques (mailed to you in early October.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Two copies of each poem. (Please keep originals; entries will not be returned.)</li> <li>▶ One business envelope with the following inside:</li> <li>▶ Check for entry fee.</li> <li>▶ 3x5 card (no odd-sized cards) with 1. Your name, address, phone, email. 2. Poem titles 3. How you heard about this contest - online or where?</li> <li>4. Whether OWC Member or non-member.</li> <li>▶ SASP (Self-addressed stamped postcard for receipt and your peace of mind.)</li> </ul>
<b>Mailing address for Short Story:</b> OWC Contest, C. Lill Ahrens, 306 NW 32 <sup>nd</sup> St., Corvallis OR 97330	<b>Mailing address for Poetry OWC Contest,</b> Judy Masee, 3415 S.E. Steele St, Portland, OR 97202

**See reverse side for where to direct inquiries and judging criteria.**

Direct short story inquiries to: OWC Contest Director, C. Lill Ahrens, at [cclill@comcast.net](mailto:cclill@comcast.net)  
Direct poetry inquiries to OWC poetry coordinator, Judy Masee [jtmassee@comcast.net](mailto:jtmassee@comcast.net)

**Judging Criteria for fiction and nonfiction short stories only, not necessarily in order of importance.**

- ▶ Plot (hook, complications, climax, satisfying resolution).
- ▶ Evokes emotion in reader (e.g. chuckle, sadness).
- ▶ Theme (what story is about beyond the plot (i.e., courage/fear, loss/gain).
- ▶ Mechanics (grammar, point of view, showing/telling etc.)
- ▶ Sensory detail.
- ▶ Originality.
- ▶ Depth of character/character arc.
- ▶ Tension.
- ▶ Follows contest director's nit-picky contest rules