

2018-2019 COMBINING VOICES: LITERARY COMPETITION FACT SHEET

Nineteenth Annual Combining Voices Literary Competition and Field Trip Opportunity

Combining Voices is a special literary competition and tour opportunity designed for students in grades 4 through 12. The program encourages participants to respond visually and verbally to preselected paintings from the Morris Museum's permanent collection. While students do not have to visit the museum to enter the competition, experiencing the objects firsthand is highly recommended.

Help us encourage and celebrate the community's young authors by urging them to participate in the competition.

Literary Competition Fact Sheet

When is the competition?

Entries will be accepted August 14, 2018–March 20, 2019.

Who can enter?

The competition is open to local students in grades 4–12 in public, private, or homeschool programs.

What can students enter?

Student authors can submit either a short story (one thousand words or less) or a poem (between four and fifty lines) inspired by one of five preselected paintings from the Morris Museum's permanent collection. One entry per student.

What can students win?

Monetary prizes will be awarded in six different categories. Additionally, work by all first, second, and third place winners and honorable mentions will be reproduced in an anthology.

Do students have to visit the museum in order to enter?

No. Although we offer a complementary tour designed to enhance the student's understanding of art and literature, participants do not need to visit the museum to enter the competition. However, experiencing the objects firsthand is strongly recommended. Digital reproductions of the selected artworks are available online. Additionally, students are encouraged to go to the museum with their families. The five preselected pieces are identified in the galleries.

What is the Combining Voices field trip opportunity?

Offered August 14, 2018–March 19, 2019, the Combining Voices tour teaches students how to correlate art and literature and how to verbally respond to paintings. Led by experienced docents, participants analyze paintings, discuss literature concepts, and complete targeted writing activities. An optional hands-on art activity or writing workshop designed to enhance the tour experience is available upon request. Tours last 45 minutes.

How much is the field trip and activity?

Tours are free to all public school students. Private and homeschool students are \$2.00 each. The optional 45-minute hands-on activity is an additional \$2.00 per participants for all students. Call 706-828-3867 to book your field trip.

Where are the competition guidelines and forms?

Competition guidelines and entry forms can be found online. Copies are also available at the museum's front desk.

When are entries due?

Submit entries between August 14, 2018–March 20, 2019. Entries must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 20.

How do I submit an entry?

- **One** entry per student.
- Entries must be original and previously unpublished works inspired by one of the preselected paintings.
- Short stories must be no longer than one thousand words; poems must be between four and fifty lines.
- All entries must be submitted electronically on a CD-ROM or USB drive with an accompanying printed version attached to the entry form.
- All files must be written in MS Word, using either Courier or Times New Roman, 12 pt. font.
- Include the title of the poem or story and the image that inspired the entry at the top of the document. **DO NOT WRITE THE STUDENT'S NAME ON THE ENTRY.**
- The title of the electronic file must match the title of the poem or story.
- Include all student entries (from your class, school, or homeschool group) on one CD-ROM or USB drive.
- Label the CD-ROM or USB drive with the name of the submitting teacher (or homeschool group leader) and school.
- Complete one entry form per story or poem. Securely attach a printed copy of the poem to each individual entry form. Attach all submissions to the CD-ROM or USB drive.

Send your submissions to the Education Programs and Engagement Manager, Chelsea Stutz, Morris Museum of Art, 1 Tenth Street, Suite 320, Augusta, GA 30901, or drop them off at the museum's front desk not later than 5:00 p.m. on March 20, 2019.

Winners will be notified in late April. An awards ceremony will be held in May.

Members of the Authors Club of Augusta have prepared a tip sheet that will aid students in their writing on the website. Also available is How to Have An Artful Conversation, a guide for looking at art for non-art teachers.