

2021 HISTORIC IRVINGTON HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL

WRITING CONTEST RULES & INFORMATION

Contestants are encouraged to submit an original poem or short story with a Halloween theme. There is a limit of one entry per contestant. The contest is open to Irvington and nearby local residents of all ages. Winners will be honored at the Night out on Sleepy Hollow event, Thursday, October 28th. Winning stories will be shared on the Irvington Halloween Festival Website. Winners will be notified on Monday, October 20th, 2021.

General Contest Rules & Guidelines

- Limit of one entry per contestant
- Entries must be e-mailed to irvspookystory@gmail.com no later than **Monday, October 18th**. Late entries will not be considered
- Entries must be emailed in a fully editable file format (i.e. Microsoft Word, Google Doc, OpenOffice, Rich Text)
- Entries must be appropriate for general audiences. Any entry deemed inappropriate or that fails to meet the contest criteria outlined may be disqualified at the discretion of the contest coordinator or judges
- Entries cannot have been previously published
- Entries **must** include the following details within the document:
 - o Title
 - o Author's First and Last Name
 - o Author's Category (Grade in school or 'Adult' if not applicable)
 - o Name of School (if applicable)
 - o Author's Home Address
 - o Author's Phone Number (or parent's)
 - o Author's Email Address (or parent's)

Contest judges will select the best short stories and poems based on scariness, theme, originality, entertainment value, and writing quality. There will be a winner selected within each of four age group categories. Categories are: *Adult, High School, Middle School and Elementary School.*

Poems can be of any length. The poem does not need to rhyme or fit any specific poetic form.

A **short story** can be a personal narrative, memoir, true story or any kind of fiction story. We will consider stories that are between 800 and 10,000 words in length; please do not send anything longer or shorter than this. Judging will emphasize writing quality rather than length. Contestants may include illustrations to enhance the storytelling. Works must be submitted in an editable format. Any illustrations must be submitted in a separate file that is attached to the email. For more information about Historic Irvington Halloween contests and events, visit www.irvingtonhalloween.com.

GOOD LUCK!