



*How did an author's work  
change your view  
of the world or yourself?*

**Contest entry deadline: March 1, 2024**

*Entries accepted beginning November 13, 2023*

The Wyoming Center for the Book at Wyoming Humanities invites students in grades 4-12 to enter **Letters About Literature**, a statewide writing competition. Students may compete in one of three levels: Grades 4-6, Grades 7-8, and Grades 9-12.

First place winners at each competition level will receive a \$150 Bookshop.org gift card, second place winners will receive a \$100 Bookshop.org gift card, and third place winners will receive a \$50 Bookshop.org gift card. All winners and honorable mentions will receive a non-monetary award certificate.

## HOW TO ENTER

**READ:** Select a fiction or nonfiction book, short story, poem, play, essay, graphic novel or speech you've read/listened to and have strong feelings about. It might be a work that helped you through a difficult time, or it might be one that simply touched your heart or inspired you.

**REFLECT:** How did this author's work change you or your view of the world? Consider how it influenced your identity or thinking, or how you see your community and your place in it.

**WRITE:** Your entry should be written in the format of a personal letter to the author. It should include a date, greeting, body, and closing. Write honestly, from your own perspective and reflect on how the author influenced you. This should be a personal letter, explaining how reading their work changed you. Support your ideas with specific details both from the book and from your life. This is NOT a fan letter, a book summary, or a letter about the author. Letters must be typed. **Do not include your name, address, email, or phone number on the letter** — that will go on your entry form and cover sheet.

**SUBMIT:** Complete the entry form and staple it to the front of your letter. Or you may submit your letter here: [LAL Contest Form](#). Entries without a form will be discarded. You may also email your letter with the required entry form to Lucas Fralick at [lucas@thinkwy.org](mailto:lucas@thinkwy.org). Remember: all entries must be received by March 1, 2024.

**QUESTIONS?** You are welcome to email or call (307.721.9243) Lucas with any questions. If email or online link are unavailable, please contact us to help you get your letter submitted in the contest.

## TEACHERS' NOTES:

Please DO NOT ASSIGN A PARTICULAR WORK to students. Allow students to choose a piece of literature that speaks to them personally.



# OFFICIAL RULES

Wyoming Letters About Literature 2023 is open to students in grades 4-12 who attend school in Wyoming or, if submitting individually and not as part of a class, are legal residents of Wyoming. Students may not enter in more than one state's Letters About Literature contest. Students must be in grades 4 through 12 during the 2023-2024 school year. There will be three (3) Levels of competition: a) Level 1 for Grades 4-6, b) Level 2 for Grades 7-8, and c) Level 3 for Grades 9-12.

Entries must arrive between November 13, 2023, and March 1, 2024 (or be postmarked by March 1, 2024)

Students select a fiction or nonfiction book, short story, poem, essay, play, graphic novel or speech that they have read/listened to and have strong feelings about. They then write a personal letter to the author of their selected piece explaining how the work changed the student's view of themselves or their world. Audio books are acceptable.

Entries must include a date, greeting, body of the letter, and closing. Entries must NOT include a return address, email address, or phone number on the letter; this contact information must be provided on the entry form.

Each entry (a) must be the original creation of the submitting student; (b) must be previously unpublished and cannot have been submitted to any other competition; (c) must not infringe upon or violate the rights of any third party; and, by the act of submission, warrants and represents that the student (and parent/legal guardian if student is a minor) fully and completely conforms to the stated requirements for entry. It is the responsibility of the educator or individual submitting nominations to evaluate the submission materials and take appropriate action if the materials contain any expressions of the intent to self-harm, depression, or other sensitive subjects.

The educator or submitting individual should follow the policies of their school or educational institution in handling such matters or contact the appropriate local resources to follow up with the student and, if appropriate, with the students and parents or legal guardians, as the local policy and confidentiality guidelines permit. Submitting educators and individuals agree, by submitting materials to Letters About Literature, that they have reviewed the materials for this purpose and taken appropriate action.

By submitting an entry form, student and/or student's parent/legal guardian agree that portions of or entirety of the entry of selected winners including the student's name, city/town, school, grade, and letter may be published and used to promote the Wyoming Letters About Literature contest. All submitted entries become the sole property of the Wyoming Humanities and will not be acknowledged or returned; works may be shared by Wyoming Humanities online or in print. Limit one (1) entry per student. No other form of participation other than as stated in these official rules is valid.

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## ENTRY FORM

**Complete this form and send along with your letter. Please print legibly and complete both the top section and either the class or individual entry section.**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Work \_\_\_\_\_ Author \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address _____	City _____	State _____	Zip _____
Parent's/Guardian's Name & Signature (required) _____			
Email _____	Telephone _____		

School/Library _____	-		
Address _____	City _____	State _____	Zip _____
Teacher/Librarian Name & Signature (required) _____			
Email _____	Telephone _____		