

2024 It's All Write AADL Teen Writing Contest Finalists

Congratulations to the following writers who have been selected as finalists in this year's It's All Write teen writing contest! Winners will be announced at 1pm on May 18 in our virtual awards ceremony, which can be viewed at aadl.org/itsallwrite2024 and on AADL YouTube. Finalists below are listed in no particular order.

6th-8th grade finalists:

Short Story category:

Examples of Silence, Aiden Kim
Why the Tides Come In, Anonymous
Aslan, Anonymous
Beach Day, Makenna Denney
One Final Game, Han-Ming Cai
Crossing, Miriam Sullivan
Bones, Eloise Lancaster
I Expected to Be Murdered, Alice Zhu
Misplaced, Jihyun Ko
Abstract, Maya Romero
The Answer, Maya Fu
Count to Ten, Elizabeth Arst
Skinny Love, Naomi Starks
Shades of Violet, Kira Tribou
It's a Small World, Nathan Mei
Growing Trees, Natalie Zhang
Marley's Journey, Ashok Senthooran
Empathy, Elsa Bergman

Flash fiction category:

Bubbles, Annabelle Chen
Paper Flower, Emma Krueger
The Power of Forgiveness, Medha Pamudurthi
The Invasion, Bohdan Shewchuk
October, Leslie Huang
Clones, Andrew Long
Run for Your Life!, Shuhao Dong
Looped, Dillon Bhuva-Trombley
Thinking of You, Anonymous
The "Maybe's" We Made, Anonymous
Wouldn't Go There, Kira Tribou
Bon Appétit, Angela Mi

Poetry category:

Winter and All Of It's Glory, Kaydence Smith
Porcupines, Shekinah Chikosi
A New Era, Hillel Rothschild
One Day I Wish to Be a Vet, Nora Williams

Waves in the Ocean, Merry MacArthur
Expert Philosopher, Bohdan Shewchuk
Creative's Art, Sylvia Stoermer
The Tale of Joy and Sorrow, Jaewon Lee
Winds of Change, Sevie Roddy
Just a Dream, Ellie Hotchkiss
Another Devious Turn, Nicole Dong
The Fishbowl, Anonymous
Being a Woman, Emerson Olevenick
Dermatillomania, Annabella Mi
Ecosystem, Amelia Bai

9th-10th grade finalists:

Short Story category:

The Gardeners, Amarachi Emole
Celia Lennox is Perfectly Fine, Hana Ghani
Unicorns are Made of Familiar Flesh, Nadia Collins
A Fall From Grace, Izzy Monville
Cryptomnesia, Kaylee Gadepalli
Helicopters, Tova Weiss
Pickles, Natalie Hong
Ms. Caroline, Neel Ginter
Second Chance, Mara Birchmeier
Bent and Snapped, Jashn Grewal

Flash fiction category:

Artificial Intelligence, Shyla Smith
Hallmark Movie, Masimba Chikosi
Blind Betrayal, Haashir Ahmed
"You Were Never Ours," Bella Stanton
Memories, Mollie Meadow
Boxed In, Logan Skrzypek
Snow White—With a Touch of Red, Irene Kim
A Change in Perspective, Aaliyah Welch
Patricia, Tessia Knollmeyer
Bear Witness, Kaylee Gadepalli
She, Tova Weiss
The Stonewall Inn, Izzy Monville
Rejection, Nathan VanSteenkiste

Poetry category:

Rifle Season, Sean Fox
Conversing With Crocodiles, Finn Boldenow
Crimson Evil, Bella Stanton
Bitter Fruit, Grace Bruce-Watson
Stuck, Sky Seedman
Cold Plunge, Alea Fitzpatrick
a traveler's burden (or is it a gift?), Hana Ghani

Not Enough, Rajonya Dey
Moms, Sukhmani Kaur
TV Chatter, Naledge Frierson
Family Friend, Aaliyah Welch
An Anthem Sung From Parched Throats, Nadia Collins
War, Connor Naylor
time will tell, Tova Weiss
dear laika (what's in a tragedy), Izzy Monville
nouvelle vague, Kashifah Hossain
Where the Shadows Have Bled, Kaylee Gadepalli
Couplet Cinéma, Bintou Kaba

11th-12th grade finalists:

Short Story category:

Je Ne Sais Quoi, Liam White
The Last Farewell, Elizabeth Daut
The Maiden and the Bog-Man, Marvin Amrine
Stewards of the Endless Wood, Ainsley Maddock
The Death of Decadence, Ashton Maddock
The Hunt, Grace Marie Liu
Headland, Shangyang Xia
The Child's Burden, Hannah Port
The Back Corner of the Museum, Avni Gupta
Mushrooms, Maya Martinson
The Kid From East London, Jonah Birnbaum
The Journey, Jason LaRoy
When You Know, You Know, Anonymous
RAT!, Anonymous
Flight of the Frozen Feathers, Veronica Batzer
Courage, Toluwaleyi Meadows
Luna, Kriya Jaiganesh

Flash fiction category:

The Criminal, Elizabeth Daut
Her Dress, Caylee Parson
A Day in the Life of An Imaginary Reality, Marvin Amrine
The Walk Home, Anonymous
Midnight Horrors, Ashton Maddock
Metamorphosis, Dev Patel
What is a Birthmark?, Mikayla Michalak
(Un)conditional Love, Angela Chen
The Man and His Little Orange Boat, Bee Whalen
Oh Leslie, My Boy, Toluwaleyi Meadows

Poetry category:

An Echoing Question, Anonymous
Down in the Valley, Clarke Fields
girl kisser, Marvin Amrine

Vision, Katie Hume
I Remember You: A Poem About Life, Love, and Loss, Jessica Iekel-Johnson
Jabali, Matthew Price
Drop of Hope in a Vast Ocean of Truth, Emily Grifka
ATONE!, Jackson Duby
Garbage, Ricardo Pastor
A Life Cycle, Serena O'Brien
Love Custodian, Bee Whalen
Shouldn't the Bird's Cry Be Louder?, Toluwaleyi Meadows