

# MODERN MYTH CONTEST RULES

All entries must be submitted no later than 11:59 pm EDT on July 1, 2025. Entries received after 11:59 PM EDT will be disqualified.

## Overview of Contest

This is a pre-convention virtual contest. All entries will be submitted and judged before the National Convention. The winning entries will be announced at the convention. The JCL member submitting the entry must attend the convention in person or virtually in order for his or her entry to win an award. There will be three divisions: **lower (grades 6-8)**, **middle (grades 9-10)**, and **upper (grades 11-12)**. Students must compete in the grade level last completed.

A contestant can write one of the following:

- An original myth to explain the existence of some phenomenon in nature or modern culture (myth should use classical Greek OR Roman mythological characters but not a combination of both; new, invented characters with classical names may also be used);
- A classical myth in modern dress or setting which should be recognizable through the plot and not from the names of characters (the writer must identify the original myth in a postscript to the story);
- A new myth using classical figures with the creation of minor new characters (e.g., a new Hercules story).

In all categories, the writer should be careful not to contradict existing myths. New characters and/or new adventures may be invented, but no tampering with basic, traditional mythology should occur.

## Submission

### [Submission Form](#)

A student may enter only ONE myth. If two or more myths are submitted, all will be disqualified. If a myth has been submitted in a previous year, it will be disqualified.

The myth must be 500–1200 words. Myths which have less than 500 words or more than 1200 words will have points deducted on the basis of three points per 100 words. The entry may be in prose or poetry form.

The entry **MUST** be submitted by the deadline. The title, grade level, and category must appear at the top of each page. Pages must be numbered. Three points will be deducted for violating any of these guidelines. The contestant's name may **NOT** appear on the entry. The entry will be disqualified if the name appears.

## Judging

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

| Category                     | Points     |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Classical Allusion/Reference | 25         |
| Originality/Creativity       | 25         |
| Theme/Style/Mechanics        | 25         |
| Overall Effectiveness        | 25         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                 | <b>100</b> |

