# 2026 Tapestries of Tuscarawas County

Dear Neighbor,

We are looking for submissions for the eighth edition of the literary magazine, *Tapestries of Tuscarawas County*! This project is a vibrant book that captures what it is like to live in Tuscarawas County, and we hope you would like to help. If you have a strong memory of your life that you can share with us you could be included in this book, and you might win a cash prize! The Dover Public Library is compiling stories, poetry, photographs, and art for publication in a book as part of its ongoing oral and living history project. Each story provided will be a thread, and each thread will be woven together with stories from friends, family, and neighbors to contribute to a rich tapestry that expresses the varied beauty of our individual lives.

**2026 Challenge—**2026 marks the semiquincentennial of the United States of America—that's right, the good old U.S. of A. is 250 years old in 2026 and the County, State, and Nation are celebrating. When you are considering a contribution to *Tapestries of Tuscarawas County,* you may want to create something that celebrates **America 250**!

***How do I contribute?--***You can contribute by sharing your stories with us. There are several ways to do this: You can write us a letter. You can dictate your story to a loved one. You can record it at a family gathering. It can be handwritten, typed, or emailed. All we ask is that the final submissions are kept to 2,000 words or less. Art and photography that reflect our county and its unique culture are also being accepted. One piece of art or photograph will grace the front cover! This art can be emailed, printed, or hand-drawn.

***What if I'm not a very good writer?--***Stories are not judged based on writing ability, but on interest and relation to our county, and our editor will help make them ready for publication.

***What should I write about?--***Anything!--Your best/worst memory, something embarrassing that happened, something that changed your life, something that stands out to you as a representative example of your youth or adulthood in Tuscarawas County. The stories must adhere to only two rules: they must be true and they must not harm anyone in the telling. See the reverse side for some prompt questions to help you get started. More questions can be found at https://storycorps.org/great-questions/

The State of Ohio's **America 250** commission has created **themes** for each month that may help prompt something for *Tapestries*—January is Ohio's Firsts and Originals; February—Ohio works: Innovation and Industry; March—Ohio Entertains: Music and Entertainment; April—Ohio Moves: Transportation; May—Ohio Creates: Arts, Culture, & Literature; June—Ohio Outdoors: Exploring Ohio's Natural Resources; July—Ohio Gathers: Homecoming and Picnics; August—Ohio Goes to the Fair: the Ohio State Fair, County Fairs, and Festivals; September—Ohio Plays: Sports and Wellness; October—Ohio Grows: Food and Farms; November—Ohio Serves: Remembering Veterans, First Responders & Front Line Heroes; and December—Future Ohio: Projecting Ohio in 2076.

***How can I win the cash prize?--***The library will offer a cash prize in each of the following categories: photography/art, written narrative, and poetry. If there are limited selections in any category, 2 categories may be combined. There is no cost to submit a story, and you are under no obligations.

***When can I get the book?--****Tapestries of Tuscarawas County* will be released in May of 2026 in honor of Ohio's celecration of Arts. Culture and Literature that month. Contributors will receive a free copy. It will also be available at Dover Public Library and other local libraries and historical societies. Create your submission today! You can be proud to be a part of this valuable addition to our local living history.

**Entry Rules:**

- Include the submission form (below) with your entry.
- Your submission must be original, in your own words, previously unpublished, and it must have a connection to Tuscarawas County. Please do not send fiction, clippings, or any previously published material.
- Maximum length: 2,000 words
- Include only one piece with each submission form. You may make copies of the form and send us more than one submission.
- You may submit again if you submitted for the last edition, but please ensure you submit a different piece.
- You accept full responsibility for what you produce and assure us it is not copyrighted. You give us permission to edit and publish your submission in any of our publications, to shorten it if necessary, and to assign a title. You are not required to purchase a book, to pay to win an award, or to have your piece published. If your piece is published, you will receive a free copy of the book.
- We reserve the right to reject any material at any time. The written material you send cannot be returned, so be sure to keep a copy.
- Mail your submission by **January 31, 2026** to Dover Public Library, Attn: Tapestries, 525 N. Walnut Street, Dover, OH, 44622 or send to kjurkovic@doverlibrary.org
- Questions? Email kjurkovic@doverlibrary.org or call the Library at 330-343-6123.

**Prompt Questions:**

- What was the happiest moment of your life? The saddest?
- If you could hold on to one memory from your life forever, what would that be?
- Do you have any favorite stories about your kids?
- Do you have any favorite stories from your childhood?
- What are your best memories of grade school/high school/college/graduate school? Worst memories?
- Do you have any favorite stories from school/work?
- Do you have any favorite stories from your marriage or about your husband/wife?
- Have you experienced any miracles?
- What was the most profound spiritual moment of your life?
- What traditions have been passed down in your family?
- What are your classic family stories? Jokes? Songs?
- What places/people do you associate with Tuscarawas County?

**<u>SUBMISSION FORM</u> This form must be completed and returned with your story.**

**Mail to: Dover Public Library Attn: Tapestries, 525 N. Walnut Street, Dover, OH, 44622 or email to kjurkovic@doverlibrary.org**

I submit this material for consideration for a living history book about Tuscarawas County. I am abiding by the rules above. Other than these rules, I understand that I am not obligated in any way, that I own the rights to the material I submit, but I allow Dover Public Library to publish it in any of their publications, and to mention my name as a "contributing author" in their promotional materials.

(Please Print)

NAME_____PHONE_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____STATE_____ZIP_____ EMAIL _____