



**Southern Lakes Advanced Learner Network in conjunction with
the School District of Jefferson Advanced Learning Program**

The Southern Lakes Anthology Creative Writing and Art Contest is sponsored each year by The Southern Lakes Advanced Learner Network. Students in grades 3-8 have the opportunity to enter poetry, prose, illustrated writing, cartoon, or art based upon a specific theme. Each category has a very specific format to follow, so students need to ask their teacher for the correct template to use (at the bottom is also a BRIEF explanation).

Each year a new theme is selected. The theme for the 2024-2025 school year is **THE POWER OF...**, and each piece should represent this theme. However, the word **POWER** or **THE POWER OF** cannot be used in any title. Entries are due to their teachers by December 6, 2024.

From these entries, the best student works from grades 3-8 are selected to represent Jefferson at the regional competition held in January, so a properly formatted, quality piece is key to selection. Students who are winners at the regional level are invited to a reception at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in May where they receive their own copy of the anthology as featured writers or artists. Each year, Jefferson has several pieces of student work that are published.

Thank you,

Deb Lemminger

Advanced Learning Coordinator

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General Guidelines (*teachers have more specific guidelines for the categories, but these are the basics*):

- Content should be appropriate for ages 8-14, with no violent depictions
- All work must be original, including drawings. No copies of existing photographs or easily recognized art, commercial logos, cartoons or characters will be accepted if it is in the student work.

Poetry - one page max, 12-20 pt font, can be a variety of poetry methods, one inch margin minimum

Prose - maximum 2 page double spaced, 12-15 point font, one inch margin, should be free of mistakes

Art - black and white ONLY, using pencil (preferred) or ink or marker, one inch minimum margin, NO name or title on the piece (there is a template available), strong emphasis on black and white contrast

Cartoon - black and white only with emphasis on contrast, must have legible words, recommend using template that is available

Illustrated writing - this is THE ONLY piece that may have 2 students collaborate, same requirements as poetry or prose in general, one page max for poetry (with illustrations) 2 pages for prose (including illustrations).