



Youth Creative Writing Short Story Challenge

Sponsored by

Fred Meyer[®]

We are calling upon our youth to prove that the power of words not only inspires, but can be used to help those in needs.

Submissions will go towards a publication that will be used as a fundraiser for programs like Campus Kitchens and 2nd Harvest, organizations that feed kids outside of school hours.

Guidelines for our “Be a Hero” short story publications

1. Tell an exciting, heartwarming or funny story about someone you consider to be a hero, an experience you yourself have had with someone that was a hero to you, or what super powers we have as ordinary people to be heroes to those we come in contact with every day. Your story should be written in the first person and should be about yourself or someone close to you.

Subject Suggestion:

- Anti-Bullying- a personal example of ways to overcome or stop bullying
- Service Projects that you participated in and what it meant to you.
- A person in your life that is a hero to you
- What you can do to be a hero to your family or community

2. The story should start “in the action” and draw in the reader. Do not start your story with an introduction about what you are going to say, or end with a concluding paragraph about what you just said.

3. Don’t be afraid to speak from the heart, it is the way that you can inspire those that read your story.

5. Don’t try fancy moves with tenses. Writing in the present tense about something that happened in the past rarely works.

6. Keep your story to 1200 words or less, that way we can include as many stories in our publication as we possibly can.
7. Ask your parents or teachers for help if needed to help edit, and work within the guidelines.

Stay away from:

1. A sermon, an essay or eulogy.
2. For this submission there can be no help to write the story unless you are unable to type the story yourself.
3. A term paper, thesis, letter or journal entry.
4. About politics or controversial issues.
5. A biography or testimonial.
6. A journalistic article about a third party that reads like a newspaper article.

Guidelines for our “Be a Hero” poems

1. We want to hear your stories that you share through poems.
2. Stay away from writing poems that seem overly focused on rhyming.
3. Focus on the message of your poem

A few more tips about submitting

1. The only way to submit your stories or poems to us is via our website. If you have any problems when trying to fill out the form and submit your work, please contact beahero@firstnightspokane.org. Please be patient as we are a volunteer staff.
2. We cannot help you with your personal computer problems. If you have questions, such as, “How do I paste my story into the submission form?” please ask your teacher, or family member for help.
3. Please submit only stories or poems that have not been previously published.

Good luck to everyone with this special writing challenge!

All submissions must be in by December 15th 2017.

Thank you to all of those willing to share your stories and your talents to inspire and help those in need.

Please email Nanette Miller, Executive Director with any questions about this challenge. nanette@firstnightspokane.org