

Official Rules and Guidelines – 2007-08

Mustard Museum Writing Contest

The Contest. The Mount Horeb Mustard Museum is offering two (2) \$2,500 prizes for the two top mustard-themed children’s book manuscripts submitted. The manuscripts should be geared toward children between the ages of 3 through 10.

“Mustard On A Pickle” is another name for this contest but need not (and should not) be the title of your submission. Your book must be about mustard in some way but does not have to involve mustard on pickles.

Illustrations. You do not need to submit illustrations with your manuscript. Illustrations will not be considered in the judging.

Who can enter? The contest is open to all writers and would-be writers with the obvious exceptions. Employees of the Mustard Museum and their family members cannot enter. Employees or owners of the contest’s sponsors are also not eligible. The contest is not restricted to U.S. residents and we welcome entries from all countries.

Writers may submit more than one entry but each entry must be accompanied by a separate entry form and entry fee.

Collaborative efforts are welcome but only one prize for a winning entry will be awarded.

Entry Fee: \$6.

Contest Divisions and Prizes. The Mount Horeb Mustard Museum will award two \$2,500 prizes to the two best submissions in the “open” category. Writers and aspiring writers who are enrolled in any private or public high school (or are in an accredited home school program) as of November 1, 2007 may enter in the “Young Writers” Division and need not submit the \$6 entry fee. The top five entries in the Young Writers Division will receive \$100 each.

Winners will be announced on National Mustard Day (August 2), 2008, at Mount Horeb, Wisconsin.

Publication of Winning Entries. The Mustard Museum may at its discretion produce and publish any of the winning entries. The Museum will arrange for and pay for any illustrating services necessary for publication. Compensation for authors who wrote winning entries that are published shall be limited to the prize money awarded. The author’s name shall appear on any published works.

Acceptance of entries and deadlines. Entries must be typewritten, double spaced, and in English. Handwritten entries, no matter how brilliant they may be, will not be considered.

Neither will email or digital entries be accepted. The entrant's name should appear only on the entry form and not on any pages of the manuscript. This is to make sure that judges will not be influenced by the names of the entrants in case they might know them.

Illustrations are not required but you may suggest possible illustrations. The work will be judged on the basis of the writing submitted.

There is no word limit but writers should understand the usual length of books appropriate to the age category (3 through 10). Writers not familiar with the usual style of children's books are advised to check out books on writing children's books or to spend some quality time at a public library or a book store.

Two copies of the manuscript should be submitted.

Entries should be sent to the Mount Horeb Mustard Museum at the following address:

Mustard Museum Writing Contest
Mount Horeb Mustard Museum
PO Box 468
100 West Main Street
Mount Horeb, WI 53572

Entries must be received no later than June 10, 2008.

Taxes. Winners are solely responsible for any taxes that may have to be paid as a result of prizes awarded.

Use of Entries. Entries become the property of the Mount Horeb Mustard Museum and will not be returned. However, contestants retain all rights to their nonwinning entries. We will not provide comments, feedback or judges' reactions. Winning entries may be published by the Mustard Museum and the sole remuneration shall be the prizes awarded. (Yes, this is repeating what is already in an earlier paragraph but we want to make sure there is no misunderstanding.)

Questions? You may email the Mustard Museum curator with any questions you may have. curator@mustardmuseum.com.