

Student Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Science Contest

Sponsored by Chicon 7, the 70th World Science Fiction Convention.

Science fiction and fantasy expand horizons and open new worlds for their readers. The stories they tell can take us to the farthest reaches of the universe, explore new facets of the world around us, or take us to a magical realm. . . . Science fiction is grounded in science fact. The science of today, whether it is exploring the possibility of life on Mars or mapping the human genetic structure, can serve as the basis for science fiction stories.

Chicon 7, the 70th World Science Fiction Convention, a section 501(c)(3) charitable organization, is sponsoring a contest for the best short story with a science fiction or fantasy theme and the best science essay. This contest is open to all students in **elementary school** (5th grade and below), **middle school** (6th through 8th grade), and **high school** (9th through 12th grade). **Each entry must include a completed entry form.** Each student may enter/win in any or all of the story, art or essay categories, but may only enter once in each of the categories. **Please do not include the student's name on the front of any entry.**

The **short story** must be an *original* story with a *science fiction or fantasy theme*. It must be in English, typewritten using a standard business font and double-spaced. It must be at least 5 pages long for students in elementary school, 10 pages long for students in middle school, and 15 pages long for students in high school, and should be no more than 50 pages. Entries will be judged on their originality, and creativity, grammar, and spelling, structure, character development, plot development, and the use of science fiction, and fantasy elements.

The **science essay** must be a *factual* work including a *list of references* used. It must be in English, typewritten using a standard business font and double spaced. It must be at least 3 pages long for elementary school students, 6 pages for middle school students, and 9 pages for high school students, and should be no more than 35 pages. Entries will be judged on content, grammar and spelling, structure, and use of references.

Entries should be mailed to Student Writers Contest, PO Box 13, Skokie, IL 60076. USA. Entries must be postmarked by **June, 15, 2012**. Winners will be announced at a special ceremony honoring the contestants at Chicon 7 on Saturday, September 1, 2012.

Entries may be displayed at science fiction conventions and may be (non-exclusively) published by Chicago Worldcon 2012, Inc. Entries will not be returned.

All contestants will receive a certificate for participating. Semi-finalists will be invited to attend Chicon 7 for Saturday, Sept. 1, 2012. Finalists will also receive a commemorative T-shirt and a \$10 gift certificate from a major book store. The winners will be invited to attend all five days of Chicon 7 and will receive a commemorative T-shirt and a \$50 gift certificate from a major book store.

Chicon 7 will be held August 30 through Sept. 3, 2012, in Chicago, IL. For more information, see our website www.Chicon.org

Student Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Science Contest Entry Form

Entries should be mailed to: Student Writers Contest, PO Box 13, Skokie, IL 60076.

Student Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____

Postal Code _____ Country _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Age _____ Grade _____ T-Shirt Size _____

Teacher _____

School _____

School Address _____

Parent or Legal Guardian _____

Story _____ Science Essay _____

Title _____

Entries may be displayed at science fiction conventions and may be (non-exclusively) published by Chicago Worldcon 2012, Inc. Entries will not be returned.

I hereby give _____ permission to participate in the Student Science Fiction Contest.

Signature of parent or legal guardian

Postmark by June 15, 2012
