



Arkansas State Library

900 West Capitol Ave., Suite 100 - Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-3108

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For immediate release

News Release

2017 Letters About Literature reading and writing contest underway

The Arkansas Center for the Book at the Arkansas State Library announces that entries for Letters About Literature, a national reading and writing contest for students, are now being accepted by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

The Center encourages young readers in grades 4 - 12 to enter this year's letter writing competition. The contest challenges young readers to write a personal letter of reflection to an author, living or dead, explaining how that author's work somehow changed the readers' view of their world.

Letters About Literature awards prizes on both the state and national level in three competition levels: Level 1 for children in grades 4 - 6; Level 2 for children in grades 7 - 8; and Level 3 for children in grades 9 - 12. The winning state letter at each level is entered into the national competition.

One national winner in each competition level will receive a \$1,000 cash award; one national honor winner in each level will receive a \$200 cash award. One state winner in each level will receive a \$100 gift card. Second place state winners will receive a \$50 gift card and third place winners will receive a \$25 gift card.

State winners and finalists will be recognized at a special awards ceremony in Little Rock next Spring.

There are three deadlines for this year's contest. All Level 3 entries must be postmarked by Dec. 2. All entries for Levels 1 and 2 must be postmarked by Jan. 9, 2017.

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To learn more about the contest or download an official entry form visit the Arkansas Center for the Book's web page at <http://tinyurl.com/j9q642p> or the national Center for the Book's Letters About Literature's web page at <http://www.read.gov/letters>.

The Arkansas Center for the Book, a program of the Arkansas State Library, is an affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. The Arkansas State Library provides the resources, services, and leadership necessary to meet the educational, informational and cultural needs of the citizens of Arkansas, and provides guidance and support for the development of local public libraries and library services. For more information on the library's services, visit www.library.arkansas.gov.

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