

# Dharma Inc. International



## **Eighth! Annual Creative Writing Contest**

**FOUR Categories, Over TWELVE Awards & Financial GRANTS!**

- ⚙ 10 & Under (200 – 300 words)  
**Short Story:** “My Day With \_\_\_\_\_”  
Write a short story about a day you spent with an important personality of any nationality and time period.
- ⚙ 11 – 14 Years  
**Poetry:** “*Meri Mā*” (My Mother)  
*Compose a poem\* regarding your - or any notable Mother.*
- ⚙ 15 – 18 Years  
**Poetry:** “*Courage Is...*”  
*Compose a poem\* surrounding the theme of courage.*
- ⚙ Over 18 Years (700 – 900 words)  
**Essay:** **America’s Violence: Is the United States more violent today – or have we become more aware of violence that has always existed?**  
*Violence is a prominent topic in the national discourse today. Explore violence in the United States in the past and present. Compare them, identify trends and draw conclusions. Offer an answer to the question of the essay.*

**Submission Deadline:** Sunday, 08/11/2019 by midnight (mail, email or hand delivered).

**Awards Ceremony:** Sunday 09/29/2019 at Sri Vishnu Sahastranaam Mandir.

### **EVERYONE Gets REWARDED for your efforts!**

Category	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	ALL Entrants
Under 10:	First Place Plaque	Trophy	Trophy	Certificate of participation <sup>3</sup>
11-14 Yrs.:	First Place Plaque	Trophy	Trophy	Certificate of participation <sup>3</sup>
15-18 Yrs.:	\$300 Grant	\$100 Grant	Trophy	Certificate of participation <sup>3</sup>
19 & Older:	\$1,000 Grant	\$200 Grant	Trophy	Certificate of participation <sup>3</sup>
<b>BONUS!</b>	Spiritual Leader’s Choice Award (Trophy)			

\*See guidelines for details. <sup>3</sup>Authenticated by Dharma Inc. for use in school or extra-curricular credit.

**DETAILS & ENTRY FORMS AT: [www.Dharmainc.net](http://www.Dharmainc.net)**

# Dharma Inc. International



## EIGHTH! Annual Creative Writing Contest

### ENTRANT TITLE PAGE

Please Attach This Page to the **Front** of Your Essay

Entrant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Qualifying Age Category:

<u>Age</u> (select ONE)	<u>Topic</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Ten and Under</b> (200 – 300 words)	<b>“My Day With _____”</b> Write a fictional story about your day spent with an important personality of any nationality and time period.
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Eleven to Fourteen</b>	<b>“Meri Mā” (My Mother)</b> Compose a poem regarding your - or any notable Mother.
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Fifteen to Eighteen</b>	<b>“Courage Is...”</b> Compose a poem surrounding the theme of courage.
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Over Eighteen</b> 700 – 900 words (max 900)	<b>America’s Violence: Is the United States more violent today – or have we become more aware of violence that has always existed?</b> <i>Violence is a prominent topic in the national discourse today. Explore violence in the United States in the past and present. Compare them, identify trends and draw conclusions. Offer an answer to the question of the essay.</i>

Number of Pages in your Essay: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Words in Essay: \_\_\_\_\_



## EIGHTH Annual Creative Writing Contest

### GENERAL RULES

- Participants must write on the official topic.
  - Entry should be composed in standard English.
  - Entrants may use a dialect, Hindi or traditional words, phrases or sentences as enhancements.
  - **Each entry should contain a completed title page (containing):**
    - The title of your entry**
    - Entrant's name, address, phone number and date of birth**
    - Number of words in entry**
    - Total number of pages of entry**
- NOTE: *This information should be present only on the title page, not every page.***
- Entry should contain at least the minimum required word count and should not exceed the maximum. Verbiage exceeding the maximum word count may not be judged.
  - **Each page of the entry should be numbered, starting with the first page of your submission (not the title page) and should be numbered at the bottom right of each page.**
  - Please BIND/staple/collate your entry: it's in your best interest to do so.
  - **PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ON YOUR PAGES** – Just number them.

### CONTEST REGULATIONS

#### SHORT STORIES AND ESSAYS:

All short stories and essays should comply with the following regulations before submission:

- No literary form other than the one specified for your category will qualify for judging.
  - Entries should reflect the entrant's own research and/or writing (no plagiarism).
  - Wholesale or verbatim production of religious works, accounts, articles and/or events will not qualify for judging.
  - Pictures or illustrations may accompany writing and may be considered at Judges' discretion.
  - Entries should demonstrate creativity on the part of the entrant.
  - Entrants may write in, or above their age category - but not below.
  - Entries must be typed or hand-written and **lines should be double-spaced.**
- **YOUTH CATEGORIES: Parental assistance must not be to the extent that it constitutes an unfair advantage to the entrant. ALL Entrants must sufficiently demonstrate that they have composed their entries in order to qualify for placement.**

## **POETRY:**

All poems should comply with the following regulations before submission:

- No literary form other than poetry will be judged (no stories, songs, etc.).
- Entries should reflect the entrant's own writing (no plagiarism).
- Wholesale or verbatim production of religious pieces will not qualify for judging.
- Pictures or illustrations may accompany writing but are not required for poetry.
- Entries should demonstrate creativity on the part of the entrant.
- Entrants may write in, or above their age category - but not below.

YOUTH CATEGORIES: **Parental assistance must not be to the extent that it** constitutes an unfair advantage to the entrant. **ALL Entrants** must sufficiently demonstrate that they have composed their entries in order to qualify for placement.

## **ALL ENTRANTS should ensure:**

- You are competing in only one (1) category.
- **You have attached a completed entry form with your submission.**
- Your submission title, but not your name, appears at the top of each page of your submission
- You are submitting three (3) copies of your essay to: *(address below, if mailing)*  
Dharma Inc. International  
3858 Shoreview Drive,  
Kissimmee, FL 34744  
-- or -- You have **hand delivered** to a member of the Education Committee, a member of the board or the Spiritual Leader.  
-- or -- You have submitted your entry by **postal mail or email** to: info@DharmaInc.net.
- Your submission is received or postmarked **on or before Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**

## **JUDGING**

- Judging will be by a panel of three.
- **To guarantee fairness, no identifiable information about the entrant will be available to the Judges.**
- Judging shall be on three areas: **grammar, presentation and content.** These three categories will be allotted points of 20, 25 and 55 respectively, for a total possible score of 100 points from each judge.
- The entrant with the highest cumulative score will be declared the winner.
- Second and third places will be awarded for second and third highest cumulative scores respectively.

## **~~~ GUIDELINES ~~~**

### **Please use to assist in understanding and obtaining maximum points**

#### **Grammar: Maximum 20 points**

How well the essay conforms to rules and standards of English grammar, punctuation and spelling. Appropriate language style (story, poetry or essay) for your entry type.

### Presentation: Maximum 25 points

The overall presentation of the essay, writing style, double spacing, writing structure, logical flow and the progression of ideas, references, whether conclusions follow sequentially and logically from arguments. **SPECIFICALLY ANSWERING THE QUESTION of the topic.**

### Content: Maximum 55 points

#### ESSAYS & SHORT STORIES:

- Age appropriate knowledge.
- Evidence of your own ideas, experience, creativity, analysis and thesis, if applicable.
- If using references or statistics: Please cite source (book, journal or webpage) in standard reference formats, i.e. footnotes or endnotes.
- Corroborative conclusions drawn from established facts, norms and/or customs.

#### POETRY:

- Each poem must have a title or a name.
- It must be original (not copied or plagiarized).
- It must be in English.
- There is no word limit.
- Should use poetic devices such as simile, alliteration, rhymes, personification, anthropomorphism, etc.
- Poem must contain a minimum of five and a maximum of eight main stanzas.
- Each main stanza must contain at least four lines, of any length.
- Each poem may contain any number of minor/one-line stanzas.

### AWARDS SCHEDULE

In the Eighth edition, awards will be offered as follows:

Category	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	ALL Entrants
Under 10:	First Place Plaque	Trophy	Trophy	Certificate of participation
11-14 Yrs.:	First Place Plaque	Trophy	Trophy	Certificate of participation
15-18 Yrs.:	\$300 Grant	\$100 Grant	Trophy	Certificate of participation
19 & Older:	\$1,000 Grant	\$200 Grant	Trophy	Certificate of participation
Bonus:	Spiritual Leader's Choice Award (Trophy)			

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- All prizes should be claimed in person on the appointed date and time. If it is not possible to do so and you desire a representative to claim on your behalf this arrangement must be made, beforehand, with Dharma Inc.'s approval.
- Winning entries may be read on the appointed date and time.
- Dharma Inc. may publish selected entries on its media portals, with credit to entrants.
- Prizes should be claimed within 180 days of announcement of winners on **09/29/2019**.
- **Judges' decision is final.**
- **GOOD LUCK!** 😊