



THORNTON WILDER WRITING COMPETITION

APPLICATION FORM

Celebrating its 40th year, the Thornton Wilder Writing Competition (TWWC) was established by the Friends of Hamden Library to honor long-time Hamden resident and Pulitzer Prize winning author and playwright, Thornton Wilder. The competition is open to all New Haven County public, private, homeschool, and parochial high school students.

Competition Guidelines

- The competition is open to all students in grades 9-12, or the homeschool equivalent.
- Entrants must attend school in New Haven County.
- Students may submit up to one entry each for the fiction and poetry categories.
- Fiction entries can be short stories, scripts, plays, or excerpts from longer works.
- Entries may not exceed 2,500 words.
- Each submission must be accompanied by a completed application.
- All submissions are due by 11:59 PM on Sunday, February 22, 2026.

Submission Rules

Submission can be emailed, mailed, or delivered in person. We encourage students to email their submissions but understand that may not be possible for everyone. **All submissions are due by 11:59 PM on Sunday, February 22, 2026.** For more information, please visit hamdenlibrary.org/twwc.

Email TWilder@hamdenlibrary.org

Mail Thornton Wilder Writing Competition | Hamden Public Library
2901 Dixwell Avenue | Hamden, CT. 06518

In-Person Visit the Information Services Desk at the Miller Memorial Library

Prizes Awarded

The judges will select a first and second-place winner, as well as an honorable mention, for fiction and poetry.

**\$400
SECOND PLACE**

\$800 GRAND PRIZE

**\$200
HONORABLE MENTION**

Name _____

Guardian Name _____

Street Address _____

Guardian Phone _____

City, State, Zip _____

Guardian Email _____

Phone _____

School _____

Email _____

Grade _____

Title of Work _____

Submission Category (*select one*)



Fiction



Poetry