15th Biennial Writing Competition

Categories:

Fiction	3,000 Word Maximum (includes drama)	(Only 1 entry per person)
Non-Fiction	3,000 Word Maximum	(Only 1 entry per person)
Poetry	75 Line Maximum Per Poem (Each person may only enter 3 poems)	

Rules and Guidelines:

- Deadline for submission is ***Thursday, October 9, 2025***
- Writers must be 18 years of age or older to enter.
- All work must be original and not previously published.
- Excerpts from longer works will be accepted.
- All works should be typed using Arial Font size 12. Double spaced.
- Awards will be presented in each category.
- Entries must be submitted via e-mail to rtsrolla@gmail.com
- Each person may enter more than one category.
- There is an entry fee of $10 per author/poet who are Arts Rolla members and $20 per author/poet for non-members. Please submit the entry form and fee to the following location to be eligible for awards:

  Arts Rolla
  PO Box 721
  Rolla, MO 65402-0721

About our Judges:

- Poetry - Dr. Agnes Vojta– Published Poet
  - Agnes Vojta - grew up in Germany and now lives in Rolla, Missouri where she teaches physics at Missouri S&T and hikes the Ozarks. She is the author of *Porous Land*, *The Eden of Perhaps,* and *A Coracle for Dreams* (Spartan Press). Most recently, she collaborated with eight other poets on the book *Wild Muse: Ozarks Nature Poetry* (Cornerpost Press, 2022.) Her latest book *Love Song to Gravity* has been published by Stubborn Mule Press in 2025. Agnes is associate editor of Thimble Literary Magazine and host of the Poetry at the Pub reading series in Rolla. Her poems have appeared in a variety of magazines; you can read some of them on her website agnesvojta.com.

- Non-Fiction – Karen Glines – Author
  - Karen Glines – Author of *Paint Missouri,* is an award-winning journalist and photojournalist who lives in Des Peres, Missouri. She has taught communication classes at the university level, served as a mentor to journalism students, and as president of Missouri Professional Communicators and the St. Louis Artists' Guild. Her published works have appeared locally, nationally, and internationally.

- Fiction – Derek L. Zboran- Accomplished Author
  - Derek L. Zboran is an accomplished author, podcaster, and educator. He has authored four Amazon bestselling books, demonstrating his ability to use storytelling to connect with readers. As a podcast host, Derek engages with creative minds globally and fosters meaningful conversations that explore, teach, and inspire. He frequently facilitates workshops on writing at Rolla Writers Club to help other creatives discover and develop their authentic voices. Derek holds a Master's degree in Communication from Southern New Hampshire University and is currently pursuing dual studies in Philosophy and Positive Psychology. He also serves as President of the Ozark Orators Toastmasters club where he helps emerging and established professionals grow in public speaking skills.

Recognition and Awards Presentation:

- Arts Rolla is pleased to invite the public to a literary evening, which includes a reading of the works by regional writers participating in the Arts Rolla 15th Biennial Writing Competition.
- Writings will be shared **Saturday, October 25th beginning at 7 pm**
- The readings will be divided by category.

at: Christ Episcopal Church.
Fellowship Hall
1000 N. Main St.
Rolla, MO 65401

- Awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each category, will be presented for the works selected for recognition by our judges.

Support and Sponsorship:
Arts Rolla greatly appreciates the support of, the Missouri Arts Council, Phelps County Bank, Brewer Science, Inc., and the members of Arts Rolla.

Missouri Arts Council
The State of the Arts

Financial assistance for this project has been provided by the "Missouri Arts Council, a state agency".

DETACH HERE_____

WRITING COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

Name		Age:
Address		
City	State	Zip code
Phone # ( )	Email:	
Title		
Category		
Title		
Category		
Title		
Category		

☐ Make check payable
To ARTS ROLLA
Or to pay by Debit or Credit card please call Arts Rolla at
573-364-5539 during office hours.
(Mon-Tue & Thur. 9:00 am - 5:00 pm,)

Return this completed form with Entry Fee, on or before October 9, 2025 to:
Arts Rolla
Writing Competition
PO BOX 721
Rolla, MO 65402-0721