

Student Science Fiction and Fantasy Contest

Sponsored by

Chicon 2000, the 58th World Science Fiction Convention
and Baltimore Worldcon 1998, Inc.

Science fiction and fantasy expand horizons and open new worlds for its readers. The stories it tells can take us to the farthest reaches of the universe, explore some new facet of the world around us, or take us to a magical realm. . . . Science fiction and fantasy aren't limited to the written word. Science fiction and fantasy art can illustrate a story or tell one of its own. . . . Science fiction is grounded in science fact. The science of today, whether it is John Glenn returning to space with NASA or the cloning of Dolly in Scotland, can serve as the basis for science fiction stories.

Chicon 2000, the 58th World Science Fiction Convention, in conjunction with Baltimore Worldcon 1998, Inc., a section 501(c)(3) charitable organization, are sponsoring a contest for the best short story with a science fiction or fantasy theme, the best science fiction or fantasy artwork, 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 student may enter/win in any or all categories, but may only enter once in each of the categories.

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. 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 artwork must be an original work with a science fiction or fantasy theme, in either pencil, pen & ink, pastels, charcoal, or paint. It must be a flat, two-dimensional piece that is mounted in a mat suitable for hanging, at least 5" by 7" and no more than 12" by 17". It may be an illustration of an existing story or an original idea. Entries will be judged on their originality and creativity, artistic technique, and the use of science fiction and fantasy elements.

The science essay must be a factual work including references. 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. Entries will be judged on content, grammar and spelling, structure, and use of references.

Entries should be mailed to **Student Science Fiction Contest, P.O. Box 314, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701, USA**. Entries must be postmarked by **March 31, 2000**. Winners will be announced at a special ceremony honoring the contestants at Chicon 2000.

Up to 100 semi-finalists will receive a free one-day membership in Chicon 2000. All finalists will receive a commemorative T-shirt. The winners will receive a full attending membership in Chicon 2000. In addition, there will be other prizes for the contestants.

Chicon 2000 will be held in August 31 through September 4, 2000 in Chicago, Illinois. For more information, see their website at www.chicon.org. For more information about this contest or science fiction and fantasy, see www.bucconeer.worldcon.org/contest/index.htm.

Student Science Fiction and Fantasy Contest Entry Form

Student Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____

Postal Code _____ Country _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

Age _____ Grade _____ T-Shirt Size _____

Teacher _____

School _____

School Address _____

Parent or Legal Guardian _____

Story _____ Artwork _____ Science Essay _____

Title _____

All entries become the property of Baltimore Worldcon 1998, Inc. They may be displayed at science fiction conventions and Baltimore Worldcon 1998, Inc. may publish some or all of the entries.

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

Signature of parent or legal guardian

"World Science Fiction Convention" and "North American Science Fiction Convention" are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.