

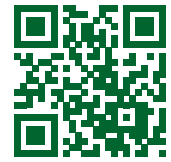


LAMPPOST

LITERARY CONFERENCE

Reading and Teaching the Great Books

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Lamppost Writing Awards, Educator Grants, and the Dr. Katherine Rader Scholarship

Lamppost Writing Awards

Lamppost Writing Awards in the amount of \$100 will be given to a student writer in each of three categories: essay, fiction, and poetry. Runner-up awards in the amount of \$50 will also be given.

Lamppost Educator Grants

In addition, two teachers will be recognized for supporting student submissions with \$150 Lamppost Educator Grants.

Dr. Katherine Rader Scholarship

In addition to the student writing competition, high school seniors who have applied to OBU may be considered for the Dr. Katherine Rader Scholarship, a one-year award in the amount of \$1300. The scholarship will be awarded to a student who attends OBU with a major in English, English Education, or Creative Writing. High school seniors should indicate their desire to be considered for the scholarship by clicking the appropriate checkbox on their submission form.

Lamppost Writing Award Eligibility and Criteria

Any high school student may submit writing to be considered for the Lamppost Writing Awards. Only one submission per category is allowed by each student. Registration and attendance at the conference (school day or full day) are required for a student to be recognized as a winner or runner-up. Winners will be announced at the conference before the school day program concludes.

Students must submit writing that is the product of their own ideas, work, and imagination.

Evidence of plagiarism or the use of generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT or similar programs that produce written text) will result in disqualification. Corrective tools such as spellcheck or grammar check are permitted, as is the input of teachers, parents, or peers for the purposes of revision or proofreading.

While no research or outside sources are required, any use of outside sources (via paraphrase or direct quotation) must be documented in MLA or Chicago style. For matters of formatting, adhere to MLA or Chicago Manual of Style guidelines. Poetry submissions may be single-spaced rather than double-spaced. Include the student's name and email address, school name, and teacher's name and email address on the submission. Home school students should include the parent's name and email.

The submission deadline in all categories is Sept. 7, 11:59 p.m. (CST). Submissions will be judged holistically based on originality, insight, organization, language, and style.

Submission Guidelines

ESSAY: What is the relationship between learning and freedom? How can reading and writing promote the exploration and exchange of important ideas? What kinds of knowledge are essential in a free society?

Questions like this are at the heart of this year's Lamppost Literary Conference theme, "Educating for Liberty." In an essay of no more than 1000 words, explore the connection between education and liberty, incorporating examples from your own life experience, literature, or history.

FICTION: Fiction in any genre, style, or subject matter is welcome. Submissions must not exceed 2500 words. If the submission is an excerpt from a longer work, it should nonetheless stand substantially on its own. For example, submitting a complete chapter or a well-developed scene would be preferable to simply submitting the first 2500 words of a long work.

POETRY: Poems in any form, style, or subject matter are welcome. Students may submit a single poem no longer than 50 lines.

