



# 2025 Young Writers' Contest

*Philadelphia Science Fiction Society  
P.O. Box 8303; Philadelphia, PA 19101*



January 9, 2025

Dear Young Writer:

The Philadelphia Science Fiction Society invites you to enter its 2025 Young Writers' Contest.

- The contest is open to **all** students in grades 5-12, not just in Philadelphia.
- There will be separate winners for Middle School (grades 5-8) and High School (grades 9-12).
- Each contest will have a prize of \$100 for first place and a prize of \$50 for second place.
- The winners will also each receive two full memberships for this year's Philadelphia Conference of Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror (Philcon; November 21-23, 2025). If the winner is already a member of the 2025 Philcon, these memberships may be used for the 2026 Philcon.
- Both science fiction and fantasy stories are eligible.
- Stories should be 1,000 words or less for grades 5-8 and 3,000 words or less for grades 9-12.
- **Each contestant may submit only one story.** This story must be accompanied by a copy of the submission form, which is included on back of this page.
- A contestant's contact information (name and address) must ***NOT*** appear in the story. All contact information should be on the submission form. The title should be on every page of the story.
- The contest opens February 1, 2025. Your stories must be postmarked or sent electronically by **midnight on Saturday, October 4, 2025**. An electronic entry should be sent by e-mail to: [writingcontest2025@philcon.org](mailto:writingcontest2025@philcon.org). You may mail your entry to: ***Young Writers' Contest; Philadelphia Science Fiction Society; P.O. Box 8303; Philadelphia, PA 19101; if you do so, please send an email to [chair@philcon.org](mailto:chair@philcon.org) stating that you have submitted your entry via US Postal Service.*** Stories may be submitted electronically in .pdf, .doc, .rtf, or .txt format.
- Stories will be judged by members of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society.
- Prizes will be awarded at the 2025 Philcon, November 21-23, 2025. Winners are welcome to bring guests to the award ceremony.
- The Philadelphia Science Fiction Society (PSFS) reserves the nonexclusive right to publish each winning story, with written consent of parent or guardian. It is recommended that you and your parent or guardian also provide your signatures in the spaces provided on the submission form to acknowledge acceptance of these terms. You do ***NOT*** have to give PSFS publication rights in order to enter the contest.

Good Luck!

*Lew Wolkoff*  
Lew Wolkoff  
Contest Chairman



Philadelphia Science Fiction Society  
2025 Young Writers' Contest  
Submission Form



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Story Title: \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to allow us to post your story on our web page and/or in our Program Book, should it win, then please provide signature acknowledgement of the following terms. *It is not necessary to sign in order for your story to be considered for the contest.*

We hereby give the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society a non-exclusive, irrevocable, payment-free license to publish the submitted work in any form whatsoever, including, but not limited to, publication via any website of Philcon and/or the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society.

Parent or guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Student/contest entrant: \_\_\_\_\_

Contest Code Number (PSFS use only)

Remember, your contact information should **NOT** appear in the story. All entries **MUST** be accompanied by a copy of this form.

**Submission options:**

- Send hard copy entry and this form to *Young Writers Contest; Philadelphia Science Fiction Society; P.O. Box 8303; Philadelphia, PA 19101*
- Send electronic entry and this form via e-mail to *writingcontest2025@philcon.org*.

*The Contest begins on February 1, 2025.  
The Deadline for entries is midnight on Saturday, October 4, 2025.*