A Few Opportunities for Student Writers

Go ahead – send your work out there!
You’ve got nothing to lose.

Before you send any work in, check the Writers’ Submission Guidelines, which appear on the website or inside the magazine. Pay attention to word count and any themes that might be requested. If a contest has a DEADLINE, make sure that your work arrives in plenty of time.

Send your best work; and have a teacher, friend, or parent check your manuscript for typos. Use white paper, 8 1/2” x 11’ and black ink with a normal font like Times / 12. Follow the guidelines carefully. For example, type your name and page # on each page, unless requested NOT to—sometimes contests want “blind” manuscripts with a separate cover sheet that has your title listed on it. Make sure to keep copies of any work that you submit.

If at first you don’t succeed, don’t be discouraged. Every rejection slip brings you one step closer to being published. When your work is published, you will receive a copy of the issue, and sometimes payment, too. Keep copies or “clips” of all your published work. Best of luck in your efforts!

Please note: If some links do not open automatically, please copy and paste the url in your search bar. If you find a link that is not found, please let us know at: info@cpits.org.

California Coastal Commission Annual Art & Poetry Contest, entries due by January 31. Open to all K-12 students who live in California.
http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/poster/poster.html

Figment: encouraging, online community where young writers share and read new writing. Launched by former editors of the New Yorker. Contests and forums to post your work.
http://www.figment.com

Highlights for Children: youth up to age 12 may send poems, drawings, book reviews and more. Guidelines are at https://highlights.submittable.com/submit

New Moon Girls: The Magazine for Girls and their Dreams, for ages 8 – 12. Check out their website and guidelines and upcoming themes.
http://newmoon.com/how-to-get-published/

A Few Opportunities for Student Writers

Go ahead – send your work out there!
You’ve got nothing to lose.

Rattle Young Poets Anthology: The author of the poem must have been age 15 or younger when the poem was written, and 18 or younger when submitted. Poems may be submitted by the poet, or by the poet’s parent/legal guardian, or teacher. http://www.rattle.com/children/guidelines/


Scholastic: sponsors an annual competition for writers, photographers, and artists. For grades 7 – 12. Website has resources and examples of past award & scholarship winners. http://teacher.scholastic.com/writeit/pubhome.asp


Waging Peace: a wealth of peace resources, including poetry, video, and essay contests and interviews with peacemakers and world leaders. Past winners featured. http://www.peacecontests.org/

Selected Literary Resources & Youth Opportunities

California Poets in the Schools, 2131 19th Street, #203, San Francisco, CA 94116. (415) 221-4201. Places professional writers in classrooms throughout California. Student poems and resources online. Yearly anthology published. Invite a Poet-Teacher to your school. She/he can then select poems from each residency to submit to our editor for the yearly anthology. http://www.californiapoets.org/

************************************************************************************************************************************************************************************************************************
A Few Opportunities for Student Writers

Go ahead – send your work out there!
You’ve got nothing to lose.


California State Summer School for the Arts. Annual program held at Cal Arts for 8th-12th grade students passionate about music, creative writing, dance, film, visual art, animation, or theatre. Details about portfolio preparation on their website. Applications due in February. Excellent student support and lifelong friendships. http://www.csssa.ca.gov/

Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth. Offers seminars, summer programs, and Imagine magazine, which is a treasure trove of opportunities in writing and other fields of interest. http://cty.jhu.edu/imagine/


National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts sponsors annual scholarship programs, including Presidential Scholars in the Arts awards, for high school musicians, writers, artists, dancers. See website for application and writing portfolio guidelines. October 1 deadline to register. Fee waivers available. https://www.youngarts.org/


National Novel Writing Month. Every November, writers log in to chart their progress toward finishing a 50,000 word first-draft. Special forum and resources for teen novelists. Lots of support, ideas, and bulletin boards for different genres of writing. www.nanowrimo.org and new site for young writers: https://ywp.nanowrimo.org/

Poetry Foundation, Is committed to bringing poetry to everyone. A wonderful site to find a poem or to learn about new forms like poetry-comics. https://www.poetryfoundation.org/


Teachers & Writers Collaborative, Publishes online journal and offers lesson plans and other resources for writers and writing teachers. https://www.twc.org/
A Few Opportunities for Student Writers

Go ahead – send your work out there! You’ve got nothing to lose.


Write Girl provides pre-collegiate mentoring, creative writing workshops, performance and publication opportunities for teen girls in the Los Angeles region. Find them at [http://www.writegirl.org/](http://www.writegirl.org/)

Youth Speaks Written and spoken word in the SF Bay Area and beyond. Performances and U-21 open mic. [http://youthspeaks.org/](http://youthspeaks.org/)

In Los Angeles: [http://826la.org/](http://826la.org/)