



52nd Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival

2026 Poetry & Short Story Contest

Postmark Deadline: April 30, 2026



Eligibility

Only previously unpublished works will be considered. All work must be original, not having been entered in any previous Poetry & Short Story Contest sponsored by the Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival. Poems and short stories must be 4,000 words or less. Each author may enter one story; each poet may enter two poems. All genres will be accepted.

Entry Fee

Poetry entry fee is \$10 for up to two (2) poems. Short Story entry fee is \$10 for one (1) short story. Submit an entry in both categories for a \$20 entry fee. International entries must use PayPal for entry fee. All other entries may pay by check or money order, made payable to WAHF or by credit card (Visa, MasterCard, or Discover). There will be a 4% fee charged on each credit card transaction. The entry form and entries may be emailed to info@artsandheritage.com. You may also mail your entry form, fee, poem(s) and/or short story to:
WAHF, 252 Twin Lakes Road, Latrobe, PA 15650

Rules

Send one (1) copy of each entry. All entries must be typed on 8 1/2" x 11" paper.

Short Stories - Stories are to be double spaced and typed on one side of the paper only. Do not staple or connect pages. Include page number and title of story in the top right corner of each page. Do not put your name on the stories.

Poems - Do not put your name on the poem(s). Include page number and title of poem in the top right corner of each page.

No short story or poem will be returned. Winning entries may be published on our website. Notifications sent via email by **May 31**.

Awards

Westmoreland Award \$200
First Place \$125
Second Place \$100
Third Place \$75

Please ensure that entire form is filled out completely. Print legibly, illegible or incomplete entry forms will be disqualified. Payment must accompany form.

2026 Entry Form - Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival Poetry & Short Story Contest

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

I am entering: ☐ Poetry (\$10 enclosed) ☐ Short Story (\$10 enclosed) ☐ Both Contests (\$20 enclosed)

Choose one: ☐ Check enclosed (payable to WAHF) ☐ Please charge my credit card (No American Express)

Credit Card Number: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Expiration Date: _____ / _____ Credit Card Code (CVV/CVC): _____

Title of Poem #1: _____ Title of Poem #2: _____

Title of Short Story: _____ Word Count: _____

☐ Returning Entrant, last year entered: _____

☐ New Entrant, How did you hear about our contest? Please be specific and give the name of the business, publication or website.

The undersigned does hereby consent to all the rules and guidelines of the Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival (WAHF) Poetry & Short Story Contest. I, the entrant, if paying by credit card, authorize the WAHF to charge the entry and transaction fee to my credit card. The undersigned considers this entry form a commitment to participate.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



The Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

The Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival is a 501 (c)(3) Nonprofit Organization. A copy of the official registration and financial information of the WAHF may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Participation or registration does not imply endorsement.

Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival, 252 Twin Lakes Road, Latrobe, PA 15650
E-mail: info@artsandheritage.com Phone: 724-834-7474