

Hill Middle School's

Young Authors Program

2018-2019

November 2, 2018

Dear Teachers, Students, and Parents,

All Hill Middle School students are invited to participate in the 2018-2019 Young Authors Program. This program encourages students to become involved in the authoring process, using their skills to create an original written work. Students will submit their writings to their Language Arts teachers at each grade level. **Up to ten works** will be selected from each team to be forwarded to Hill's Young Authors Program Evaluation Committee.

The Evaluation Committee will judge the manuscripts on established criteria (see guidelines), and highest scores will determine winning manuscripts. To ensure objectivity, manuscripts will not be identified by student name.

Important dates for the Young Authors Program are:

Monday, January 14:	Up to ten manuscripts from each team due to the Young Authors Evaluation Committee.
January 17 to March 1:	The Evaluation Committee judges the works submitted by each team.
Friday, March 8:	Winning manuscripts and their authors are announced.
TBA:	Celebration for all finalists.

Student guidelines for the Young Authors Program are below. Please encourage your son or daughter to participate in the Young Authors Program, and contact us if you have questions, comments, or suggestions. Thanks for your continued participation and support.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Loiterman, Mimi Raczak, and Mara Southorn
Hill Young Authors Coordinators

Guidelines for Young Authors Manuscripts

1. Acceptable styles of writing are poetry, story, or essay.
2. Length and format are determined by the author. There are no requirements for the manuscript regarding length, height, width, or shape.
3. The work must be original.
4. Books authored and/or illustrated by more than two students will not be accepted. Co-authored or author/illustrator entries will count as two entries.
5. Dictated books may be typed or handwritten by an adult if the student is unable to print but must be in the student's own words.
6. Final manuscripts must have a title.
7. Final manuscripts must be submitted without the student's name appearing on the manuscript. Team leaders will have forms to identify the author of each work.
8. Manuscripts must have a substantial cover with pages securely attached.
9. Works will be evaluated on: basic grammar, originality/creativity, descriptive vocabulary, story development, and overall quality of work.