



Dear 4th, 5th or 6th Grade Teacher,

We hope you'll join us this year for the 26th annual Kleiman Creative Writing Contest!

Presented by the Kendallville Public Library and open to all 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students, this is the opportunity your students have to make their writing shine!

Many of you have completed this contest a number of times, and are familiar with the rules, while others may be new to the game. Here are the rules and some things to look for or look forward to!

1. You **DO NOT** need to do a special piece or writing JUST for this contest—have students pull a current work out of their writing folders to develop, edit, and revise.
2. Books can be created electronically, using the program of your choice, but remind students that neatness still counts. Books need to be printed, scanned or emailed and turned in by the deadline.
3. The contest can be used as a class project (meeting a LARGE number of standards in one project!) incorporating the writing, editing, and illustrating of the books into the curriculum. Classes with 100% participation receive a special **PRIZE** for your classroom.
4. Please include a class list with your class entries. This will help us check spelling of names.
5. Every participant and teacher is invited to an **awards ceremony** on **April 17 from 5:30-7:30** at the Community Learning Center.

Want to know more? I have enclosed the rules and entry form. If you'd like a copy of the information packet for each of your students, or would like to schedule classroom visits, I encourage you to call 260-343-2022 or send me an email at mgraber@kendallvillelibrary.org.

All books are due March 18, 2024 at the Kendallville Public Library or Limberlost Branch.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the library.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Mary Graber'.

Mary Graber
Youth Services Manager
Kendallville Public Library

2024 Kleiman Creative Writing Contest

Open to Students in the 4th, 5th and 6th Grades
Sponsored by the Kendallville Public Library

Contest Rules:

- Students write and illustrate their own original book.
- The book must include:
 - front cover (illustration, title, student's name) Please use a pen or markers. No Pencil.
 - title page (illustration, title, student's name, date)
 - back cover (free choice, just can't be blank)
 - Story pages with page numbers on each page (no minimum or maximum required pages.) *see page layout illustration.
 - For best printed book results, make sure to have pages ending in 4-8-12-16-20. Increments of 4.
- Books should be made using 8 ½" by 11" sheets of paper. Text should be set within 1" margins.
- Typed text needs to be at least 12 point font and written text needs to be clear and easy to read. Be creative with your text, play with size and color. Please do not color over text. Ink is encouraged for all text.
- **Art must be original, but can be created using a computer or tablet. Please do not use clipart or google images as they are not allowed. Drawing art and importing it into a computer or tablet program is encouraged.**
- Please turn in a paper, scanned or email copy of your book: Put the book together in the correct order with the **required entry form** on top. Use a **paper clip** to hold the book together. ****Your teacher may print the entire classes books and turn in to the library. Entries may also be scanned and emailed to: kleiman@kendallvillelibrary.org.**
- **The deadline for all entries is March 18.** They must be received by closing time (5pm) and may be delivered to either the Kendallville Public Library or its Limberlost Branch.
- Entries will be displayed and picked up at the Awards Ceremony.
- See attached sheets for more information.

Awards that can be won:

- 1st, 2nd & 3rd place in each grade level for each category.
- Special awards may be awarded for: Best Cover, Best Artwork, Best Creativity, etc.

2024 Kleiman Contest Entry Form

Kendallville Public Library

Please type or print legibly

Title of Book: _____

Name of Student: _____

- Fourth Grade
- Fifth Grade
- Sixth Grade

Category for judging

- Poetry
- Non-fiction
- Alphabet Books
- Graphic Novel
- Fiction Story book
- Chapter Books

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Teacher: _____ School: _____

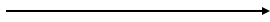
We certify that this entry is an original work and was developed and constructed by the student named above. If this book is found not to be the work of the student named above any prize will be forfeited.

Author/Illustrator Signature

Parent's or Teacher's Signature

Sample Book Layout Kleiman Creative Writing Contest

***Page Layouts may be vertical or horizontal depending on how you want to design the book**



| |
|---|
| Book Cover |
| Must Include: Title Student's Name Illustration |
| |

or

| |
|---|
| Book Cover |
| Must Include: Title Student's Name Illustration |
| |

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Back of Front Cover | Title Page |
| Blank | Must Include: Title Student's Name Date Illustration |

or

| |
|---|
| Back of Front Cover |
| Blank |
| Title Page |
| Must Include: Title Student's Name Date Illustration |

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Back of Title Page | Story Begins |
| Blank | Text and Illustration |
| | 1 |

or

| |
|------------------------------|
| Back of Title Page |
| Blank |
| Story Begins |
| Text and Illustration |
| 1 |

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| Story Continues | |
| Text and Illustration | |
| 2* | 3* |
| | |

or

| |
|--|
| |
| |
| |

For best printed book results make sure to have pages ending in 4-8-12-16-20 etc.

2* or 2* = any even numbered page

3* or 3* = any odd numbered page

Sample Book Layout

Kleiman Creative Writing Contest - Page 2

Story continues. If the book ends on an even number, that final page will be on the left side of the two page spread, with the opposite side of the back cover on the right.

Back Cover
May Include:
Photo
Illustration
Info about book
Info about author

Cannot be Blank

or

Back Cover
May Include:
Photo
Illustration
Info about book
Info about author

Cannot be Blank

2024 Kleiman Creative Writing Contest

Title of Book:

Student's Name:

| | Excellent 5 points | Superior 4 points | Good 3 points | Average 2 points | Needs Improvement 1 point | Not Applicable |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Creativity of Story Line | | | | | | |
| Theme - Stays Focused on Topic | | | | | | |
| Appears to Use Original Character and Storyline | | | | | | |
| Organization | | | | | | |
| Has Clear Order | | | | | | |
| Thorough and Complete Ideas and Information | | | | | | |
| Style | | | | | | |
| Word Usage | | | | | | |
| Fluent and Easy to Read | | | | | | |
| Strong Sense of Audience | | | | | | |
| Text/Illustrations Blend | | | | | | |
| Characters are Appropriate to the Story | | | | | | |
| Story is a Balance of Information and Images | | | | | | |
| Illustrations | | | | | | |
| Does not Distract from Story | | | | | | |
| Overall Presentation | | | | | | |
| Neatness | | | | | | |
| Spelling | | | | | | |
| Total Score | | | | | | |

Comments: