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,

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.

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
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.
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<th></th>
<th>Excellent 5 points</th>
<th>Superior 4 points</th>
<th>Good 3 points</th>
<th>Average 2 points</th>
<th>Needs Improvement 1 point</th>
<th>Not Applicable</th>
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**Comments:**