Creative Writing (Adult)

COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

FAIR CONTACT INFORMATION

MARIN COUNTY FAIR | FAIR OFFICE & EXHIBIT HALL	20 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael, CA 94903
WEBSITE	www.marinfair.org
EMAIL	FairExhibits@MarinCounty.Gov
REGULAR OFFICE HOURS	Monday to Friday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
FAIR OFFICE HOURS	July 1 (Wednesday) to July 5 (Sunday): 8:00 am to 8:00 pm
MARIN COUNTY FAIR HOURS	July 1 (Wednesday) to July 5 (Sunday): 11:00 am to 11:00 pm

COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS STAFF

CREATIVE WRITING (ADULT)

COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS MANAGER	Jennifer Olvera
ONLINE SUBMISSIONS COORDINATOR	Carole Sanders
DEPARTMENT MANAGER	Francesca Bell

COMPETITION CALENDAR

ONLINE ENTRY FORMS DUE	JUNE 17, 2026 – 11:59 pm
ENTRY RECEIVING & DROP-OFF	JUNE 19, 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm & JUNE 20, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
ENTRY RELEASED (POST FAIR)	JULY 6, 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

The full Competitive Exhibits Calendar is available on www.marinfair.org .

REGISTRATION

To register for the 2026 Competitive Exhibits, please visit https://marin.fairwire.com/

ENTRY DELIVERY AND PICK UP

Please refer to the Competition Calendar for exact dates and times.

Drop off is located at the Marin County Fair Exhibit Hall, located at **20 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael, CA 94903**. Follow the signage at the Exhibit Hall for the exact location.

Claim checks will be provided when exhibits are delivered and are required to pick up your entry on entry pick up date.

DEPARTMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

Local and State Rules govern this competition.

1. **ELIGIBILITY -** Writings previously shown at the Marin County Fair are not eligible.
    a. All Entries must be the original content and current work of the writer and created within the last two years.

ENTRY INFORMATION

2. **ENTRY FEES -** $5.00 per Entry
    a. Fees are NON-refundable.
3. **ENTRY LIMIT -** 2 entries **PER** exhibitor **PER** class
    a. The same entry may not be entered in more than one class or division.
4. **IDENTIFICATION -** Only the **TITLE** may appear on the front of the entry. Exhibitor Name, Division/Class# should be listed on the back of the entry.
5. **ENTRY REMOVAL -** Accepted works shall not be removed from exhibition until the Fair closes.

6. **ENTRY RELEASE -** Entries must be picked up on release day. Entries will only be released by presenting your claim check, personal identification, or a signed letter of authorization from the exhibitor.

COMPETITION RULES

7. Entries must either be neatly mounted with a **MAXIMUM SIZE** of 9" x 11.5" or submitted in a folder.
    a. Folders may or may not be included in the displays.

PUBLICITY

8. The Marin County Fair reserves the right to photograph any work in the exhibition for educational, catalog, website, or publicity purposes.

LIABILITY

9. The County of Marin, Marin County Fair, and/or its contractors will not be responsible for loss or damage which may occur from any cause. Any entries received damaged will not be juried.
10. Work held more than 5-days after Release Date is Fair property and may be sold/donated to offset storage costs.

SCORECARD

ORIGINALITY	**25%**
FORM	**25%**
STRUCTURE	**25%**
NEATNESS	**25%**
TOTAL:	**100%**

DIVISION 62 | CREATIVE WRITING

Entry Fee - $5.00

CLASSES (Submission Categories)

1. Creative piece in the voice of an object that has played a role in America's history, any genre (1500-word limit)
2. Illustrated children's story starring a star (1000-word limit)
3. Flash fiction that could only take place in America (1500-word limit)
4. Personal essay about what America means to you (1500-word limit)
5. Memoir of America as a country or as a place (1500-word limit)
6. Poem about a moment in American history
7. Ode to stars or ode to stripes
8. Haiku, tanka, or haibun on any subject
9. Wild Card—any genre, any subject (1500-word limit)

AWARDS | DANISH SYSTEM | CREATIVE WRITING

Offered per Class at the discretion of the Judges

FIRST PLACE	RIBBON
SECOND PLACE	RIBBON
THIRD PLACE	RIBBON
HONORABLE MENTION	RIBBON

SPECIAL AWARDS

BEST OF CLASS	$10 & ROSETTE
BEST OF SHOW	$20 & ROSETTE