

# Young Georgia Authors WRITING COMPETITION 2025–2026

Inspiring Georgia's Young Writers – One Story at a Time!



## What Is the YGA Competition?

The Young Georgia Authors (YGA) competition encourages students to express themselves through original writing. Since 1981, this statewide contest has celebrated creativity, voice, and student achievement across grades K–12.



## Accepted Writing Types

- Poetry
- Short stories
- Personal narratives
- Essays or literary analysis
- Journalism or research reports
- Song lyrics, drama, or creative nonfiction

There's no writing prompt—creativity and voice are encouraged!



## Entry Guidelines

- Entry must include a completed and signed entry form (student, parent/guardian, and district administrator)
- Work must be typed or neatly handwritten on 8.5x11" paper, one side only
- Remove the student's name and school from all pages
- Label each page with student initials, grade, and RESA district number (e.g., "ABC 3rd RESA 4")
- Entries must be original and unpublished



## Who can Participate?

All Georgia public school students, Kindergarten–12th grade, are eligible! Each student may submit one original piece of writing created without outside editing or assistance.



## Important Dates

**School Entries Due to District:**  
Friday, January 9, 2026

**RESA Submissions Due:**  
February 19, 2026, by 5:00 p.m.

**State Submissions Due:**  
March 18, 2026, by 5:00 p.p.m.

**Winners Announced:**  
Spring 2026 on the GLAS website



## Why Participate?

- Showcases students' writing talents
- Builds confidence and creative expression
- Provides opportunities for regional and state recognition



## Tips for Parents

- Encourage your child to write about what matters to them
- Help them find time to write and revise independently