

THE OLD CREAMERY THEATRE'S 2020 WRITING CONTEST

OLD CREAMERY THEATRE'S Character Lab

What are the most essential elements needed to create good character???

This year the Old Creamery Theatre wants your help to develop the perfect formula for good character by combining the Six Pillars of Character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship!



For this year's writing contest the Old Creamery Theatre would like to hear your creative original story about a character or characters that use one or more of the Six Pillars to become a person of good character, or teach someone else about having good character.

REQUIREMENTS

All entries must:

- Be an original work from the imagination of a student or students in grades 1 - 6.
- Be in the form of a story, poem, song, or play.
- Be kept to a maximum of five typewritten pages.
- Have a lesson or moral that includes one or more of the Six Pillars of Character.

For more information about CHARACTER COUNTS! and a detailed description of each of the six pillars, please visit <https://charactercounts.org/program-overview/six-pillars/>

Be creative! Try to think of unique characters and conflicts to put in your story. Stories can be about people (real or imaginary), animals (realistic or fantastical), or even inanimate objects (things that would never really walk and talk, but can come to life in your story). Use your imagination to cook up some inventive new ideas. You can create anything in your character lab!

STORY WRITING TIPS

A good story:

- Has a beginning, middle and end.
- Is creative (and comes solely from the student's imagination).
- Has interesting characters.
- Tells the reader where the story takes place.
- Deals with a conflict (or problem) that is resolved by the end of the story.
- Teaches a lesson or has a moral.
- Explains how the characters have changed or been affected by events in the story.

Don't forget!

- Each entry must include the entrant's name(s) and grade, as well as the school's name, address, and phone number. Make sure that emailed submissions include this information too!
- Students are free to work on stories individually, in pairs, small groups, or as a class project.
- Teachers are encouraged to check entries to make sure the requirements are met and to provide basic feedback associated with any creative writing project.
- No entries will be returned and all works become property of the Old Creamery Theatre.

HOW TO ENTER THE CONTEST

MAIL ENTRIES TO:

Old Creamery Theatre Writing Contest
39 38th Ave
Amana, IA 52203

EMAIL ENTRIES TO:

writingcontest@oldcreamery.com

Send all email submissions as Word Docs or PDF attachments. **NO** Google Docs, please! If you don't receive a confirmation email within one week of submission, your entry was not received. Please contact us by phone so we can resolve technical issues. 319-622-6034.



All entries must be postmarked or emailed no later than January 13, 2020. Early submissions are encouraged! Each entry will be read and evaluated and the final selection of winners will be made by February 17, 2020. Winning story titles will be posted on the Old Creamery's website.

WINNING ENTRIES

Prizes will be awarded in the form of bookstore gift cards. In the event that a winning entry is the result of a team effort, the Old Creamery will divide the prize equally. In the case of a larger group, the prize will be given to the group's supervisor to distribute as they see fit.

1 Grand Prize:	\$100 Gift Card	3 First Prizes:	\$75 Gift Card
5 Second Prizes:	\$50 Gift Card	10 Third Prizes:	\$25 Gift Card

Please Note: Entries submitted to the 2020 Writing Contest may be freely adapted by the Old Creamery Theatre Company. While remaining faithful to the idea, purpose, and intent of the young writer, we reserve the right to use their work in any manner that is consistent with our mission of bringing a high-quality, live, professional theatrical experience to our young audiences. This includes editing for length, creating new dialogue, adding music, and making changes in the material if such changes enhance the dramatic or entertainment value of the piece. Also understand that not all prize-winning stories will be performed and some material used in the final production may receive a special recognition rather than a monetary award.

Character Lab will be touring from February 17 to May 15, 2020. For more information or to schedule a performance call us at 319-622-6034 or email SchoolTour@oldcreamery.com.