

Tucson Festival of Books and Young Writer's Competition

On March 12 -14, 2010, a Southern Arizona public celebration of reading and literacy will be held in Tucson on the University of Arizona campus. Last year's festival hosted over 450 authors and presenter and close to 50,000 people attended the event. The plans are for an even greater turnout in 2010!

Activities planned for the event include:

- Lectures
- Interviews
- Book signing
- Many stages and venues with continuous events
- Panel discussions
- Workshops for aspiring authors
- Poetry readings
- A writing competition for all school aged children in Pima County, preschool through high school
- Many children's events, including interactive stage presentations, storytelling, arts and crafts
- Book sales
- Entertainment
- Vendor booths

The Young Writer's Competition invites all pre-school through grade 12 youth in Pima County to submit an original story of 1000 words or less. The stories must be written legibly or typed and may include illustrations. The judges are looking for original, student-initiated stories that show each individual's distinct point of view and that make us feel and think. Judging categories will be preschool to grade 2, grades 3 to 5, grades 6 to 8, and high school. Five finalists will be identified for each category and finalists will be recognized at the Tucson Festival of Books on March 13.

The deadline for submissions is December 1, 2009.

Last year 563 stories were submitted and the 20 winners (5 in each of the 4 grade categories) attended an awards ceremony hosted by political cartoonist, David Fitzsimmons and Vice-Mayor Karin Ulich.

For details and an entry coversheet, visit the Tucson Festival of Books website, www.tucsonfestivalofbooks.org. (Click on the Young Writer's Competition link on the main page of the website. Look for posters about the competition at schools and libraries!