

## Project Big Fish Essay Contest Guidelines

All judging will be conducted by the Alabama Writers' Conclave, "the oldest writers' organization in continuous existence in the United States."

One hundred dollars will be awarded for first place, fifty dollars will be awarded for second place and twenty-five dollars will be awarded for third place. First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded in both the Junior and the Senior Division. There will be a total of six prizes awarded.

The Junior Division consists of Grades 6-8.

The Senior Division consists of Grades 9-12.

### Deadline: March 23rd

Guidelines:

- 1) Entrants must be students attending public, private or home school in Etowah County.
- 2) Each contestant may submit only one essay, which must be original, unpublished, and must not have won a previous award.
- 3) **Essay must be written to address the following: *Big Fish* is made up of many short chapters. Four different chapters tell of the father's death; other chapters tell "tall tales" about bizarre characters. Write another imaginative chapter (500-700 words) that is consistent with the content, style, and tone of *Big Fish*.**
- 4) Essay must fall within the range of 500-700 words.
- 5) Entries must be postmarked no later than March 23, 2007.
- 6) Entries must be typed or computer-generated. Essays that take up more than one page must be stapled. No artwork, graphics, or unusual type fonts. E-mail submissions will **NOT** be accepted.

Submit **two** copies of the essay.

- 1) On the **first** copy, put the contest division (Junior or Senior) at top. Do not include any personal information such as name, school, etc. as this is the judges' blind copy.
- 2) On the **second** copy, put the contest division, the student's name, grade, teacher, and name, address and phone number of school (if in the case of home school, please provide the name, address and phone number of guardian or parent)
- 3) Also on the second copy the student **MUST COPY AND SIGN THIS STATEMENT**: "This is my original work and has not been copied in whole or part from any other author's work, including works posted on the Internet."

Failure to comply with these rules will result in disqualification. Students may submit individually or teachers may submit essays in bulk, provided each entry

follows the above rules. Essays will be judged by qualified judges. No essay will be published or returned.

MAIL ENTRIES TO:

Carol York  
Project Big Fish  
Hardin Center for Cultural Arts  
501 Broad Street/P.O. Box 1507  
Gadsden, AL 35902

Winners will be notified the week of April 22-28 and will be invited to read their work at the reading/reception to be held at the Hardin Center on April 29<sup>th</sup> at 2:00. This reception will be open to the public.