



Gulf Coast Writers Association

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## WRITING CONTEST 2010

### Theme

### “A Moment in Time”

*FIRST PRIZE (\$100 cash plus assorted gifts)*

*SECOND PRIZE (\$50 cash plus assorted gifts)*

*THIRD PRIZE (\$25 cash)*

**Deadline: Postmarked by January 31, 2010**

#### Entry Fee:

Members:	\$10.00 for 1 <sup>st</sup> submission, \$5.00 for each additional entry submitted
Non-members:	\$20.00 for 1 <sup>st</sup> submission \$10.00 for each additional entry submitted

Checks are payable to: **Gulf Coast Writers Association**

Mail the submission, check, and entry form to: GCWA  
P.O. Box 60771  
Fort Myers, FL 33906

Or, hand deliver at a regular Saturday meeting.

Entry form is on our website [www.gulfwriters.org](http://www.gulfwriters.org): GCWA Writing contest entry form is a PDF file.

No limit to number of submissions

Writing Contest is open to GCWA members and the public. **Winners must be present, March 27, 2010, to accept awards.** List of winners will be posted on our website: [www.gulfwriters.org](http://www.gulfwriters.org) by March 31, 2010.

### THREE CATEGORIES

Fiction, Nonfiction, and Poetry

## Guidelines:

- Writing Contest is open to GCWA members and the public.
- The theme is “A Moment in Time.”
- Original, unpublished submissions only
  - Your entry must be original, in English, unpublished and unproduced, not accepted by any other publisher or producer at the time of submission.
- Word count:
  - Fiction / Nonfiction – 800 to 2000 words
  - Poetry – 40 lines maximum
- Submit three (3) copies. Your submission(s) will not be returned.
  - Note: Less than six (6) entries in a category will constitute no contest and entry fee shall be returned.
- Age requirement for entrants – 18 years old by March 27, 2010.
- All entry fees are due in U.S. Dollars, accompanied by an entry form.
- Deadline:
  - Entries postmarked after January 31, 2010, will not be accepted.
- If you submit a portion of a novel, please understand that it will be judged as a complete story, not part of another work, so it needs to be a complete story in and of itself.
- All Judges’ decisions are final.
  - Judges’ will consider: characterization, plot, structure, spelling, grammar and punctuation. Visit our web site [www.gulfwriters.org](http://www.gulfwriters.org) for judging criteria forms.
  - Judges’ reserve the right to NOT select a winner if entries fail to meet quality criteria.
- Winner notification: by email before March 12, 2010
- The “winners” of the writing contest will not be published by GCWA. The winning submissions will be posted on GCWA’s website.
  - GCWA has only first rights. Copyright and all other rights remain property of author.
  - Winners must be present, March 27, 2010 to accept awards.
- You may enter as many submissions as you like in each of the following categories:
  - Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry
  - No gratuitous violence or erotica.
- Typed submissions only (handwritten submissions will be disregarded), 3 copies.
  - Font: times new roman
  - Font size: 12
  - Margins: top/bottom 1”, left/right 1”
  - Double spaced, single side on 8 ½ x 11 white paper
  - Judging by blind entry method (DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME on entry pages)
  - You must include the title of your entry on each page
  - All pages must be numbered – bottom center of page
  - Entries must be stapled in top left corner
- Entry form:
  - Entry form should NOT be stapled to entry (Judging by blind entry method)
  - Author’s name (Pen names are allowed. We only need your real name if you are chosen as a winner – in order to issue prizes.)
  - Include: snail mail, email, telephone number, title of work, submission category, and word count.