

## 2024 Participation Terms

If you enter your work into the International High School Writing Contest, you and your parent or guardian must agree to these terms and will be prompted to do so before your work is considered for judging. These terms will be a binding agreement once you and your parent or guardian agree to them, so please read them carefully. If we use the word “International High School Writing Contest” here, it means the International High School Writing Contest, and the word “Writing Waves” means us, Writing Waves, Inc., the nonprofit organization.

### ELIGIBILITY

To participate in the International High School Writing Contest, you must be a US student in grades 9-12, or age 14 years or older as of the date of entry.

### LICENSE

Students who enter works into the International High School Writing Contest will retain all intellectual property rights they have in their works, including copyright. This means, for example, you can enter the same work to other scholarship programs or contests, keep the work in your portfolio, or license it to others for non-exclusive publication.

By entering your work into the International High School Writing Contest, you give the Writing Waves permission to use your work without further permission or approval from you as part of the Writing Waves’ mission to promote creative self-expression among young people. Formally, this means you grant the Writing Waves a license to use, copy, change, publish, publicly perform, distribute, exhibit, or add to your work. This license is perpetual, irrevocable, worldwide, royalty-free, transferable, and non-exclusive (with the right to sublicense). Writing Waves can use your work in any media, including online.

You also give us permission to use your name, photograph or other image of you, biographical information, in connection with the International High School Writing Contest, including promotion. We will give you credit when we use your work in a public way, unless there is a practical reason why we cannot, such as formatting, or if the work is being used in a medium where no individual credits are given. Also, if we mistakenly do not give you credit in any given situation, if you let us know, we will try to correct that for similar uses in the future.

We may include your work in our annual publications. We will not license your work to others to publish the work under their name for their own commercial gain.

### COPYRIGHT & PLAGIARISM

All work entered into the International High School Writing Contest must be original, meaning you create the work based on your own ideas. By entering, you agree that you created it and did not copy it from any other person, business, school, or organization. You also agree not to enter work created with generative AI tools or that contains any content generated by AI tools. Any work that infringes anyone’s intellectual property rights will be disqualified. You are responsible for getting any necessary consents or releases from people or for any places or property depicted in your work.

### VIOLATIONS

Writing Waves may revoke a student’s participation in the Awards and take back or cancel any awards made by Writing Waves if we determine, in our sole discretion, that an entry does not meet the requirements of these Participation Terms or that a participant has violated these Participation Terms or other Writing Waves policies in any other way. Any participant whose award is taken back or cancelled may not identify himself or herself as the recipient of an award from Writing Waves.