

Sci4Teens

Science Writing

Contest Rules

sci4teens.com

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Authored by:

Sci4Teens Executive Team

Intro to Sci4Teens

Helping teens get involved in science communication.

Welcome to **Sci4Teens**! We are a group of high school students across the world helping other teens get involved with science research, blogging, and communication through writing contests, newsletters, and workshops.

Sci4Teens also provides mentorship for students that have questions about science writing and research.

Our **third contest** will take submissions from **January 27 to April 27, 2022**. Anyone of the ages 13-18 is allowed to enter the contest!

Join our community Slack for networking, opportunities, and updates regarding the contest!

Contest #4:

Biotechnology

Focus: Biotechnology is an important step towards healing the world. The development of biotech products can be seen in medicines, clean energy, and etc. This topic needs to be addressed today because of its implications on everyday life.

For this contest, we have one option for submission:

- Blog Post

Blog Post Explained

- Write a blog-style post about biotechnology!
- **Examples Include:**
 - Careers that biotech creates!
 - Applications & Manufacturing
 - Environment or Chemistry
 - New Advancements or Projects in the Making
- Only groups of up to **TWO** people
- Refer to the “**Sample Blog-Style Article**” on the Sci4Teens website under “Contest” to see how your entry is supposed to look.
 - **sci4teens.com**

Formatting Rules

Submit your articles in the MLA style format to avoid disqualification.

- The title of the file should be the title of the submitted article.
- Each submission should have a title, centered on the top of the submission.
- All submissions should be in 12 pt. Times New Roman font, in PDF format.
- Submissions should not exceed 800 words (not including the title and citations), although more concise articles are preferred
- Each submission must have an abstract, which summarizes the article in less than 150 words.
- Each submission must have a conclusion in the end.
- Each submission must have citations (and in-text citations) which follow the MLA Style Manual.

Judging Rubric: Blog

Articles that are plagiarized will automatically be disqualified

Section	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 point	0 points
Abstract			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thoroughly summarizes all aspects of the article - Readers can know exactly what the article entails before reading the body - 150 words or fewer, concise - Explains any high-level scientific terminology - Grammatically correct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thoroughly summarizes most aspects of the article - Readers have a somewhat clear idea of what the article is about - 150 words or fewer, not necessarily concise - Explains some high-level scientific terminology - Somewhat grammatically correct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Does not effectively summarize the article - Readers have an unclear idea of what the article is about - Greater than 150 words, not concise - Does not explain high-level scientific terminology - Not grammatically correct
Article Body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Article topic is interesting, and is researched in depth - Divided into an appropriate number of sections, which makes article easy to understand - High-level scientific terminology explained - Tables and figures are clear with titles and captions - In third person (he/she/it) - Grammatically correct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Article topic is interesting, and is researched somewhat deeply - Divided into slightly too many/too few sections - Most high-level scientific terminology explained - Tables and figures are mostly clear with titles and captions - In third person (he/she/it) - Mostly grammatically correct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Article topic is somewhat interesting, and researched somewhat deeply - Divided into slightly too many/too few sections - Some high-level scientific terminology explained - Tables and figures are somewhat clear with titles and captions - In third person (he/she/it) most of the time - Somewhat grammatically correct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Article topic is not very interesting, and not too much research is done - Divided into too many/too few sections - Most high-level scientific terminology is not explained - Tables and figures are unclear with unclear titles and captions - In third person only sometimes (he/she/it) - Somewhat grammatically correct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Article topic is not very interesting, and almost no research has been done - Divided into too many/too few sections - Almost no high-level scientific terminology explained - Tables and figures are extremely unclear, have no titles and captions - Not in third person (he/she/it) most of the time - Not grammatically correct
Conclusion		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gives a concise, but effective summary of the article - Provides reasonable implications of scientific topic - Grammatically correct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summary of the article is too long/too short - Provides reasonable implications of scientific topic - Mostly grammatically correct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summary of the article is too long/too short - Provides somewhat reasonable implications of scientific topic - Somewhat grammatically correct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summary of the article either takes up the whole article or is not present - Provides unreasonable implications or no implications of scientific topic - Not grammatically correct
Citations				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sources are appropriately cited using MLA format 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sources are incorrectly cited in MLA format

Contest Awards

Prizes will be awarded to the top three winners.

- **1st Place** – Cash: \$25, publication of piece in Cellfie Magazine, opportunity to give virtual presentation on a topic of their choice, opportunity to become a Sci4Teens Ambassador.
- **2nd Place** – Cash: \$15, publication of piece in Cellfie Magazine, opportunity to give virtual presentation on a topic of their choice.
- **3rd Place** – Publication of piece in Cellfie Magazine.