



OurPublicLibrary.to

CONTEST DATES

OPEN: 10:30 A.M., Thursday, August 25, 2011

CLOSED: 5:00 P.M., Friday, September 9, 2011

ELIGIBILITY & HOW TO ENTER

All residents of Toronto are eligible, except Toronto Public Library employees and their immediate families. You do not need to own a library card.

There are two categories of contestants:

1) Children, 12 and under can enter the contest by submitting:

- an essay in prose or verse up to 250 words in length on the topic: "Why My Library Matters to Me" *or*
- a drawing on the same topic. Drawings may contain text.

2) Everyone else (over 12) can enter by submitting:

- an essay in prose or verse up to 500 words in length on the topic: "Why My Library Matters to Me" *or*
- a video on the same topic of not more than two minutes

JUDGING

Children's entries will be judged by a panel of children of Toronto Public Library Librarians, with the guidance and assistance of TPL Children's Librarians. All other entries will be judged by a panel of TPL Librarians. Entries will be judged on the basis of originality, creativity and topical persuasiveness.

PRIZES

Winners will be randomly assigned by draw to one of the participating authors in groups of five. The authors will determine a tour of a site or area of literary significance in Toronto and have lunch with the group at the author's restaurant of choice.

Children's winners will have a reading with a children's author and then go out as a group for lunch or other suitable outing with the author. Winning children can be accompanied by one parent/guardian.

Complete contest rules on back

"WHY MY LIBRARY MATTERS TO ME"

CONTEST RULES

1. The contest is sponsored by the Toronto Public Library Workers Union Local 4948 (TPLWU). It is open to all Toronto residents except employees of the Toronto Public Library (TPL) and members of their immediate family, including any persons with whom TPL employees are domiciled. Winners may be required to verify Toronto residency.
2. The contest runs from Thursday, August 25, 2011 to 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 9, 2011.
3. There are four entry categories and multiple winners in each category:
 - A. **Written essays** on the subject: "Why My Library Matters To Me." Essays can be in prose or verse but must be no more than 500 words in length and must be submitted online through the website: *OurPublicLibrary.to*. There will be up to 33 winners in this category.
 - B. **Video essays** on the subject: " Why My Library Matters To Me." Videos must be no more than two minutes in length and submitted in accordance with instructions on the website: *OurPublicLibrary.to*. There will be up to 11 winners in this category.
 - C. **Children's drawings** on the theme: "Why My Library Matters To Me." Drawings may contain text and must be on one sheet. Drawings must be submitted in accordance with instructions on the website: *OurPublicLibrary.to*. Entrants must be 12 years of age or younger as of September 9, 2011. There will be up to 3 winners in this category.
 - D. **Children's essay** on the theme: "Why My Library Matters to Me." Essays can be in prose or verse but must be no more than 250 words in length and must be submitted online through the website: *OurPublicLibrary.to*. Entrants must be 12 years of age or younger as of September 9, 2011. There will be up to 3 winners in this category.
4. Winners in categories 'A' (Written Essays) and 'B' (Videos) will be invited to join an outing with a noted Toronto author, including lunch with that author. Each author will determine the itinerary of the outing and the restaurant for the lunch. Winners will be assigned the author's group they will be invited to join by means of a random draw conducted by the contest sponsor. The cost of transportation to and from the tour/lunch will be the responsibility of the winners. Lunch will be paid for by the contest sponsor.
5. Winners in category 'C' (Children's Drawings) and 'D' (Children's Essay) will be invited to join a private personal reading by a noted Toronto children's author and go out as a group for lunch or other suitable outing (e.g. a trip to an ice-cream parlour) at the discretion of the author. One parent/guardian may accompany each winning child. The cost of transportation to and from the event will be the responsibility of the parents/guardians of the winners. Other event costs will be paid for by the contest sponsor.
6. Winners will be notified at least two weeks in advance of the dates and times of the events. Consolation book prizes will be given to those winners who are unable to be present for the tour or reading.
7. Entries in categories 'A' and 'B' will be judged by a panel of Librarians from the Toronto Public Library in accordance with one or more of the following criteria: clarity, originality, creativity, topical persuasiveness.
8. Entries in category 'C' and 'D' will be judged by a panel of children of Librarians from the Toronto Public Library, with the assistance and guidance of TPL Children's Librarians, in accordance with one or more of the following criteria: artistic merit, originality, creativity, topical persuasiveness.
9. Entrants may make only one submission. An entry written by more than one person is not eligible. The decisions of the judges will be final.
10. Each entry shall be accompanied by the Entrant's full name and contact information valid during the months of September and October 2011, including postal address, e-mail address, and a telephone number. Each entry shall also include:
 - a biographical sketch of the Entrant, not exceeding 50 words,
 - the word count of the essay, and
 - written confirmation that the entry complies with the Rules of the Why My Library Matters to Me contest.
11. Entrants agree that Toronto Public Library Workers Union may publish the winning essays and finalists' essays, as well as the name and the biographical sketch submitted by the Entrant, in any medium, including electronically over the Internet, at a time of its choosing after the Award is announced.
12. All entries shall become the property of the Toronto Public Library Workers Union Local 4948 (TPLWU). TPLWU is not responsible for lost, misdirected, delayed or incomplete entries, however caused.
13. TPLWU reserves the right to withdraw, change or terminate this contest at any time without prior notice.