

The following is an overview of the changes to the Achievement Awards in Writing and Promising Young Writers programs, effective for the 2023 contests.

Both writing awards will have the following changes:

Prior to 2023

Applicants would submit two pieces of writing: one “Themed” and one “Best” writing, for a combined total of ten (10) pages, maximum.

Beginning in 2023

Applicants will submit a “Themed” writing that is up to ten (10) pages in length.

Prior to 2023

There were two (2) designations for each contest. For the Achievement Awards in Writing, winners were awarded the Certificate of Superior Writing. All other applicants received a Certificate of Nomination. For the Promising Young Writers Award, the award recipients received a Certificate of Recognition, while all other submitters received a Certificate of Participation.

Beginning in 2023

Each contest will have four (4) designations, to recognize submissions more inclusively. Similar to the Recognizing Excellence in Art and Literary Magazines (REALM) Award, the designations will now be awarded as follows:

1. Achievement Awards in Writing/Promising Young Writers First Class
2. Superior
3. Excellence
4. Merit

Each submitter will receive the corresponding certificate from their nominating teacher. Winners of the First Class awards will have their names and the names of their schools on the NCTE website.

The following change applies to the Achievement Awards in Writing contest:

Prior to 2023

The contest was open to high school juniors.

Beginning in 2023

The contest will be open to both high school sophomores and juniors.