

GENERAL COMPETITION INFORMATION

All students wishing to compete at the Educators Rising National Conference must complete 3 required steps:

1. Be an Active-level paid member of Educators Rising.
2. Sign up to compete at the national conference and submit any required materials by the deadline. This is NOT done automatically if you competed at a state or regional conference. You must do this by logging into the Educators Rising membership portal and clicking on the Student Resources section.
3. Register to attend the PDK2020 National Conference.

- All individual competitions are open to Educators Rising members in middle school and high school. (Students may or may not be affiliated with an Educators Rising school program.) All team competitions are open to Educators Rising programs in middle school and high school. *Please note: middle school will compete with high school. They will not have their own division.* Two competitions are open to college-level students. They will compete in their own division.
- All competitors must attend the PDK 2020 National Conference on June 17-21, 2020 in Washington, DC. Competitions will take place on-site on Thursday, June 18 through Saturday, June 20, 2020.
- If a competitor is from a state that holds state competitions, they must first qualify in that given event at their state conference before competing in that event at the Educators Rising National Conference. Contact your state/regional coordinator to see if your state offers competitions. Visit bit.ly/EdRisingAffiliates to contact your state/regional coordinator.
- In order to be scheduled to compete in a national competition, all competitor applications, national dues and required materials must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time), April 20, 2020. Each competition will identify what materials are required for submission prior to the competition. Failure to submit required materials by the submission deadline will result in disqualification. Students who have won state-level competitions also must submit their entries on the national website by the deadline to compete at the national conference. Your state does not do this for you.
- For states that offer state-level competitions, the top five places in each competition offered by the state will be eligible to compete at the Educators Rising National Conference; no other entrants from states that offer the competition at the state level will be eligible for those state-level-offered competitions.

GENERAL COMPETITION INFORMATION CONT.

- For states that do not offer state-level competitions, students may register to compete in those events at the Educators Rising National Conference. (For example, if you want to compete in Impromptu Speaking but place sixth or lower in your state-level Impromptu Speaking competition or don't compete in the state level competitions at all — you unfortunately can't compete in Impromptu Speaking at the Educators Rising National Conference this year. If you live in a state that didn't hold an Impromptu Speaking state-level competition, you may register to compete in that event at the Educators Rising National Conference.) This applies to all Educators Rising national competitions.
- For entries in national competitions, competitors must submit or bring to the event all required materials described in the national competition guidelines. Any material or forms submitted at previous state or local presentations need to be resubmitted for the national competition in order to count in national competitions.
- All video files that are submitted in advance must be in .mp4 format. Videos that are not in this file format will not be accepted and will be immediately disqualified. Videos will not be accepted by mail. The maximum file size for any video submitted in advance is 2 GB. All competitors should also bring a copy of the video file on a USB drive to the conference. Educators Rising competitions comply with FERPA in regard to student privacy and video security. Competitors are responsible for ensuring that their competition videos comply with local and state requirements regarding student privacy.
- Except when explicitly specified, the Internet may not be used during a competition presentation at the Educators Rising National Conference. All relevant files and resources should be brought to the competition site on a USB drive. All Prezi files should be download to the USB drive. Internet access may not be available during the competition. Students should bring their own pointing device, if needed.
- Students may enter up to a total of two combined events.
- Teacher leaders may enter up to two students per school in each individual event and one team for team events. All team events must have at least two students (and no more than four) per school to qualify.
- Competitors must report to their assigned areas on time. Failure to report at their scheduled time can result in disqualification. Competition schedules will be posted in the Educators Rising Membership Portal prior to the conference. Be sure to check these schedules prior to your arrival.
- Spectators may not coach or offer any verbal or nonverbal assistance to a contestant during that contestant's assigned time slot with the judges. A breach of this guideline may result in disqualification of the contestant.
- Spectators may not record any competition without prior consent of the competitors and judges.
- Competitors are expected to dress in business-casual attire. (For a detailed explanation of what is and is not permissible as "business casual," see here: humanresources.about.com/od/workrelationships/a/dress_code.htm.) Points will be deducted from the entrant's score for failure to follow the stated dress code.

GENERAL COMPETITION INFORMATION CONT.

- Certificates will be awarded to the top 10 entries. Awards will be presented to the top three entries in each category.
- Entrants grant Phi Delta Kappa International, the sponsoring organization for Educators Rising, the right to use and publish the submission in print, online, or in any media without compensation.
- Entrants grant Phi Delta Kappa International, the sponsoring organization for Educators Rising, the right to post photos of students for promotional purposes on the Educators Rising website and EdRising Virtual Campus.
- All source media used for the competition must be cited in competition submissions.
- All submitted materials must reflect original work from the 2019-2020 school year. Material that may have been created or submitted in previous years is ineligible.
- Competitors are strongly discouraged from using copyrighted material in their competitive entries. If copyrighted material is used, written permissions must be obtained for the rights to display and present media-related materials at the Educators Rising National Conference and to post media-related materials on the Educators Rising website. All permissions obtained to use copyrighted material must be included with entry submission. (Note: This requirement applies to music used in videos, graphics taken from the web, and other media-related materials. It does not apply to artifacts collected for a project.)
- Plagiarism is strictly prohibited in all documents submitted. Judges can disqualify students competing if it is determined that any part of their documents have been plagiarized.
- Teacher leaders are prohibited from approaching judges to discuss scoring or feedback. All questions or concerns should be brought to the attention of a staff member.
- Failure to follow the stated guidelines could result in disqualification of student competing.



ENTRIES WILL BE SUBMITTED THROUGH THE EDRISING MEMBERSHIP PORTAL (members.pdkintl.org) IN THE RESOURCES SECTION.

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS? CALL 800-766-1156 OR EMAIL [INFO@EDUCATORSRISING.ORG](mailto:info@educatorsrising.org).

CHECKLIST FOR APPLYING FOR EDUCATORS RISING NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Ready to compete at Nationals?

Here is a checklist to help you get prepared, registered, and on the official schedule for Washington, DC!

SUBMISSIONS OPEN: FEBRUARY 1, 2020 8:00 A.M. EASTERN TIME
DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR ON-SITE SCHEDULING: APRIL 20, 2020 5:00 P.M. EASTERN TIME

- Review the full national competition guidelines and rubric. Check the Resources Section in the EdRising Membership Portal. Some processes may be different from your state/regional conference.
- Log in to the EdRising Membership Portal, go to the Educators Rising High School Resources section, and click on the Student Resources tab. Select the competition you are interested in from list. Read the guidelines and rubrics and then click Apply, which will take you to the national competition online platform.
- Complete the online application, upload any required documents/videos, and submit. Depending on your competition, some of these items are judged before the conference so make sure they are in their final form. Recommendation: Have someone proofread your documents prior to submitting them. Many points have been lost in past years by competitors who had many spelling, grammar, and mechanics errors in their work.

You must complete and submit the online application by the April 20 deadline to be scheduled to compete at the Educators Rising National Conference. Participating at a state or regional conference does not provide a pass on completing this process.

- Print and save your confirmation email. You will need this information when you register for the conference.
- Register to attend the PDK2020 National Conference, which will take place June 17-21 in Washington, DC. All national conference information, including how to register, can be found in the Resources section of the EdRising Membership Portal.
- Find out when you are scheduled to compete on-site. Competition schedules will be posted in the EdRising Membership Portal on May 18, 2020. After this date, you can log in and go to the Resources section to find the posted schedules.
- Practice, practice, practice! The best way to prepare for your on-site competition is to practice in front of your peers. Recommendation: Reread the National Competition Guidelines and Rubric for your competition.
- See you in Washington, DC! The top 10 for each competition will be announced at the National Conference Awards Celebration on June 21, 2020 in Washington, DC. Don't miss your chance to be recognized! Be sure that when you plan your transportation for the conference that you can attend this final celebration.

2020 CHILDREN'S LITERATURE PRE-K COMPETITION

COMPETITION TYPE: Individual (one author/illustrator) or Dual (two co-authors or one author/one illustrator) — Closed to spectators

ELIGIBILITY: Educators Rising Middle and High School Students

EDUCATORS RISING STANDARDS:

- Standard II: Learning About Students
- Standard IV: Engaging in Responsive Planning
- Standard VII: Engaging in Reflective Practice

Contest Purpose

In his 2012 commencement address to University of the Arts students in Philadelphia, world famous author and storyteller Neil Gaiman said:

"Life is sometimes hard. Things go wrong, in life and in love and in business and in friendship and in health and in all the other ways that life can go wrong. And when things get tough, this is what you should do: Make good art.

I'm serious. Husband runs off with a politician? Make good art. Leg crushed and then eaten by mutated boa constrictor? Make good art. IRS on your trail? Make good art. Cat exploded? Make good art. Somebody on the Internet thinks what you do is stupid or evil or it's all been done before? Make good art. Probably things will work out somehow, and eventually time will take the sting away, but that doesn't matter. Do what only you do best. Make good art. Make it on the good days too."

Educators Rising students: it's time to make and share some good art. This is your opportunity to summon your storytelling powers and create original children's literature. Great literature can be entertaining, educational, inspiring, or illuminating, and while it may be fictional, it speaks to inner truths. Children's book authors — like educators — help young people to understand these inner truths and to make sense of the world. This competition offers Educators Rising students the opportunity to try out that identity as an author and an educator.

General Information

The book may be written and illustrated by one individual (the author/illustrator) or two individuals (an author and an illustrator). The one or two Educators Rising student members participating in this competition must write all words and create all images themselves for their submission. No artist assistance or use of images from the web or any other third-party is permissible. (For students who competed in this event in previous years, this is a change in Educators Rising policy.) The participant will prepare the original short story book format designed for a pre-kindergarten audience (ages 3-4).

Competition Guidelines

BOOK GUIDELINES

- A. Write a short story in a “book” format in English. The story can be about anything but should reinforce either academic or social/ emotional values appropriate for public school.
- B. A signed “Statement of Originality” must be completed and submitted with the book.
- C. This book should be written for a pre-kindergarten audience (ages 3-4).
- D. The book includes a front and back cover, a title/credit page, and no more than 24 pages. (24 pages front only or 12 pages front/back excluding title/credit page).
- E. The title page should include the title of the story, appropriate age audience, author, illustrator (if different from author), teacher leader’s name, school, contact information: email and high school address.
- F. Maximum book size is 14” X 22” and should be bound using a durable user-friendly method of binding. (Commercially produced bound books are allowed for binding purposes only. Use of stock images or templates is prohibited.)
- G. Text or graphics may be either illustrated by hand or computer generated, but the student participants are responsible for composing or creating all text and graphics themselves. No artist assistance or use of images from the web or any other third-party is permissible. Illustrations should be colorful, and art should

amplify the impact of the reader’s experience with the story. Neatness counts.

PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

- A. The author and illustrator will bring a copy of their book and Statement of Originality to the competition to present and read to the judges.
- B. Acceptable presentation length, including the story introduction will be between five and 10 minutes. Presenters exceeding 10 minutes or under five minutes will be deducted one point for going over 10 minutes or under five minutes and one additional point for every additional 30 seconds over or under the time limit.
- C. The author and illustrator will introduce and read the book to the judges.
- D. A time-keeper will hold up time cards as a warning at four minutes and again at nine minutes. The presentation will be stopped at 12 minutes.
- E. After the presentation, judges will have time to ask questions and finish scoring sheets. Judges will review the book and score. Once judges have completed scoring, they will return the book to the participant.
- F. Presenters should wear conference-appropriate clothing or dress in character costumes relevant to the book. No additional props can be used during the presentation.

Judging and scoring

1. The judges’ decisions are final.
2. Scoring is based on the Children’s Literature Pre-K Competition rubric.



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2020 CHILDREN'S LITERATURE PRE-K COMPETITION

STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

I attest that my submission for the 2020 Educators Rising National Competition for Children's Literature Pre-K reflects solely my original, creative efforts (and those of the other entrant if applicable). No aspect of this submission is plagiarized or infringes on the intellectual property or copyright held by anyone other than the entrant(s). I have not used any web images or third-party artist assistance to create the illustrations for this book.

Entrant(s) signature(s)

Entrant(s) printed name(s)

Printed book title

Date

School name

School city/state



2020 CHILDREN’S LITERATURE PRE-K COMPETITION

SECONDARY LEVEL (MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL)

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Judges should use this rubric as a guide to assigning points on the Feedback & Tally Sheet.

Literary Content

Points Available	20-16 Accomplished	15-11 Commendable	10-6 Developing	5-1 Needs Improvement
Story	<p>An imaginative narrative for children told clearly and engagingly.</p> <p>Meaningful and original treatment of a theme.</p> <p>Contains a well-earned and satisfying ending.</p> <p>Reflects professional caliber children’s literature.</p>	<p>An appealing narrative for children told fairly well but could have increased clarity and impact with minor tweaks in the storytelling.</p> <p>Generally successful treatment of a theme.</p> <p>Contains a generally successful ending.</p> <p>Reflects commendable student-level work.</p>	<p>The plot may lack focus or development at times.</p> <p>Theme may be unclear or not fully developed.</p> <p>Ending may not fully engage or satisfy the audience.</p> <p>Reflects developing student-level work.</p>	<p>Plot may be confusing or lack clarity.</p> <p>Story may reflect stereotypes or biases not appropriate for mainstream children’s literature.</p>
Illustrations/ Visuals	<p>Vivid images contribute significantly to the meaning of the text.</p> <p>Illustrations reflect professional caliber children’s literature through precision, imagination, and overall quality.</p>	<p>Vivid images contribute commendably to the meaning of the text.</p> <p>Illustrations reflect commendable student- level precision, imagination, and overall quality.</p>	<p>Images contribute inconsistently to the meaning of the text.</p> <p>The illustrations’ connection to the story may be confusing at times or reflect inconsistent quality.</p>	<p>Images offer minimal connection or contribution to the meaning of the story.</p> <p>Images may be distracting, or reflect minimal precision, imagination, or overall quality.</p>



Live Reading Presentation

Points Available	10-9 Accomplished	8-6 Commendable	5-3 Developing	2-1 Needs Improvement
Vocal Delivery	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are expertly crafted to deliver to the listener maximum impact, given the content of the story.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are strong. The listener is able to understand what the reader is conveying.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are straightforward. The listener is able to understand, but the story's impact would be increased with a more dynamic vocal delivery.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are inconsistent or needing improvement throughout the reading of the story. At times, the vocal delivery distracts from the content of the story and diminishes its potential impact.
Presence	The contestants' sustained eye contact, effective posture, and professional demeanor expertly complement the content of the literature to deliver maximum possible impact to the listener. All team members, whether speaking or not, reinforce the intended impact of the presentation at all times.	The contestants' mostly sustained eye contact, positive posture, and pleasant demeanor complement the content of the presentation quite well. One or both of the presenters may distractingly appear to slip in and out of professional character at moments during the session.	The contestants' inconsistent eye contact, posture, and demeanor reflect a straightforward recital of the material. The speaker(s) could do more to fully capitalize on the added impact possible with a focused, sustained presence.	The contestants display effort but eye contact, posture, and demeanor from multiple team members could benefit from more practice and coaching so that the speakers' presence consistently complements the content.

Text Mechanics

Points Available	5	2.5	0
Text Mechanics	Mechanics — including grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, etc. — are flawlessly appropriate for this work of children's literature. (well-used colloquialisms are permitted and encouraged where appropriate.)	Mechanics — including grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, etc. — contain one or two errors.	Mechanics — including grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, etc. — contain more than two errors.



Guideline Adherence

Points Available	2	0
Statement of Originality	Submitted	Not Submitted
Age Appropriate	Story is appropriate for a pre-kindergarten audience (ages 5-9).	Story is not appropriate for a pre-kindergarten audience (ages 5-9).
Title Page	The title page includes the title of the story, appropriate age audience, author, illustrator (if different from author), teacher leader's name, school, contact information: email and high school address.	The title page does not include the title of the story, appropriate age audience, author, illustrator (if different from author), teacher leader's name, school, contact information: email and high school address.
Book's Physical Size	Book is bound, and size is less than or equal to 14" x 22"	Book is not bound and/or size is greater than 14" x 22"
Page Limit	Book is no more than 24 pages front only or 12 pages front/back excluding title/ credit page.	Book exceeds 24 pages front only or 12 pages front/back excluding title/credit page.

Time of Presentation

Points Available	5	4	3	0
Length of live reading presentation	Presentation is between five and 10 minutes.	Presentation is between four and five minutes or 10 and 11 minutes.	Presentation is between three and four minutes or 11 and 12 minutes.	Presentation is shorter than three minutes or had to be stopped at 12 minutes.

Overall Impact

Points Available	20-16 Accomplished	15-11 Commendable	10-6 Developing	5-1 Needs Improvement
Overall Impact	The book captivates and inspires the reader, and is an excellent, professional-caliber representation of children's literature. The concept, execution, and presentation are professional-caliber.	The book is a commendable, student-level representation of children's literature. The concept, execution, and presentation represent commendable, student-level quality though not quite professional-caliber.	The book reflects a developing representation of children's literature. Aspects of the concept, execution, and presentation are acceptable if basic. The guidelines are followed, though multiple aspects of the book's concept, execution, and presentation may distract the audience from the intended impact.	The book reflects emerging skills in crafting and presenting original children's literature. The book may reflect a partial or incomplete understanding of the full task assigned.

2020 CHILDREN'S LITERATURE PRE-K COMPETITION

Secondary Level (Middle & High School)

Author(s) Name(s): _____

Illustrator(s) Name(s): _____

Contestants' School, City, State: _____

- Judges will use the Detailed Scoring Rubric as their guide to score students' competition entries.
- Points and feedback will be emailed to the student competitors no later than two weeks after the conference.

Literary Content

	Accomplished	Commendable	Developing	Needs Improvement	Score
Story	20-16	15-11	10-6	5-1	
Illustrations/Visuals	20-16	15-11	10-6	5-1	

Live Reading Presentation

	Accomplished	Commendable	Developing	Needs Improvement	Score
Vocal Delivery	10-9	8-6	5-3	2-1	
Presence	10-9	8-6	5-3	2-1	

Text Mechanics

	Flawless	One to two errors	More than two errors	Score
Text Mechanics	5	2.5	0	

Guideline Adherence

	Adheres	Does not adhere	Score
Statement of Originality	2	0	
Age Appropriate	2	0	
Title Page	2	0	
Book's Physical Size	2	0	
Page Limit	2	0	

Continued

Time of Presentation

	5-10 minutes	4-5 minutes or 10-11 minutes	3-4 minutes or 11-12 minutes	Less than 3 minutes or over 12 minutes	Score
Length of live reading presentation	5	4	3	0	

Overall Impact

	Accomplished	Commendable	Developing	Needs Improvement	Score
Overall Impact	20-16	15-11	10-6	5-1	

SCORE _____/100

FEEDBACK FOR STUDENTS: Write two or more sentences.