

HERIZON EMPOWER YOUR WORDS COMPETITION

Purpose:

Herizon is a wordless picture book with rich, colorful illustrations, memorable characters, and a powerful story that takes place on the Navajo Nation. Wordless books encourage children, youth, and adults to interpret each part of the story in a personal, individual way. When readers put their own words to the pictures they feel successful, happy, and enthusiastic about the story.

The purpose of the Empower Your Words Competition is to give classrooms, libraries, and community centers that work with students the opportunity to put their own creative spin on *Herizon* but putting words to the book. In doing so, South of Sunrise Creative is hoping to:

1. Build confident, independent readers
2. Make cultural connections
3. Build basic literacy skills, and
4. Master story elements.

Eligibility:

The contest is open to any classroom, library group, or community center that works with students (pre-K to adult learners).

Criteria:

- Submissions must be original.
- Created works must be submitted on behalf of a classroom/school, library, or community center.
- Manuscripts in different languages are encouraged, but must be submitted with a translation.
- Entrants consent to having their work shared.
- There is no word limit.
- All entries must follow the rules in this document.

Entry:

Entry is free.

How to Submit:

1. You may submit only one manuscript per class; however, multiple entries are accepted per school. If you are a library or community center, you may only do one submission per student group with whom you work.
2. A cover page for each manuscript is required that includes:
 1. The name of the School, Library, or Community Center submitting the piece,
 2. The name of the lead organizer of the manuscript. If it is a teacher for a classroom, please list the grade level or the course name. And,
 3. The name of each student that contributed to the piece.
3. All entries must be typed in Times New Roman, 12-point font as a WORD document.

1. Entries must be in good taste, easy to read, use proper grammar and punctuation, and correct spelling.
2. Manuscripts must be organized according to the example below. Notice that each page of *Herizon* is bolded, followed by text.

Page 1

It was a hot summer day in Chinle, AZ when a grandmother and granddaughter were doing their daily chores at home.

Page 2

While all was quiet at home, trouble was stirring on the horizon.

Page 3

And so on and so on.

3. Finished manuscripts must be emailed to dwvandeever@gmail.com.

Deadline:

The contest deadline has been extended to April 4, 2022. All entries must be emailed by 5 p.m. (MDT) on the due date. The contest will only close if a minimum of three submissions are received. If less than three submissions are received, the contest will be extended.

Judging:

Contest entries will be judged by two reviewers who work in education. In case of a tie the author will be the deciding vote. Entries will be judged on three criteria:

1. Creativity and originality
2. Relevance to the illustrations
3. Correlation to the story's basic narrative

Winning submission will be announced on May 1, 2022 on Daniel W. Vandever's Author social media accounts. Winning submissions will also be notified by email.

Awards:

The winning submission will receive \$150 for classroom/library supplies and resources. The runner up submission will receive a signed copy of *Herizon* and the third place submission will receive a signed copy of *Fall in Line, Holden*.

For More Information:

Contact Daniel Vandever at dwvandeever@gmail.com

