Marathon Writes 2017: Guidelines for Writers

Name _____   Grade Level _____

Student writers are expected to carefully abide by all of the contest criteria regarding proper formatting for submissions. All entries must be the original work of the student and will be checked for originality. Any student who presents work that is not his/her own original work will have all submitted works eliminated from the competition.

Writers are encouraged to spend as much time correcting, editing, and fine tuning their work as they spend in the original writing process. Writers are encouraged to work with supportive adults to help with edits and suggestions for improvement; however, the student writer remains responsible for making his/her own corrections for spelling, grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and sentence structure.

Winning writing will stand apart from other entries in one or more of these criteria:

- compelling voice and effective style of writing

- fresh point of view; creativity; a fresh take on familiar genres and ideas

- clear presentation of the topic and structure; logical connections; well-paced flow of ideas

- correct spelling, grammar, mechanics, and adherence to criteria for length

- diction (word choice), description and/or imagery

- fidelity to posted formatting requirements for entries

Students please note: Contest organizers and judges understand the changing influences and experiences of contemporary youth. However, topics, content, and language of presented submissions must be appropriate to community standards for published work.

Teachers please note: Please do not submit class sets of entries. The contest does not have sufficient judging personnel to examine class sets. Entries of the top works would be sufficient.

Student Checklist for Each Submission

Use a checkmark to show completion of each of the following format requirements:

My manuscript:

_____ Is typed

_____ Is double-spaced

_____ Uses 12 point font Times New Roman

_____ Has one-inch margins

_____ Places title at top of the story/essay/poem/drama

_____ Uses indents to show new paragraphs

_____ Has a cover page showing title of the work, writer's

      name, address, email, phone number

_____ Does not show my marame on any page of the story/essay/

      poem/drama; my name appears only on the cover page.

My manuscript is ready to be submitted and…

_____ has been saved as a Google Doc and emailed to Dr.

      Lancaster at Kathy.Lancaster@keysstudents.net

_____I have given Dr. Lancaster a hard copy of my entry

_____ I have filled out and signed the Marathon Writes

      submission form (available in school library)

_____ I have completed this Student Checklist

_____ I am giving the submission form and the checklist to

      Dr. Lancaster in the library.