



RELLIS FICTION WRITING CONTEST - SPRING 2026

Your stories are worth telling

We understand that writing can be challenging, but it can also bring about great amounts of creativity and joy. If you enjoy fiction, if you like to write stories, if you feel compelled to create, this is the writing contest for you.

General Information

Entries:

- **FREE ENTRY:** No fee to submit
- **Submission Timeframe:** Feb 2nd 8:00am - April 2nd 11:59 pm
- **Category:** Fiction
- **Genre:** No limit
- **Can submit multiple entries:** only one (1) of your submissions may win

Our Wonderful Judges:

- (1) Austin Burns - Admissions Coordinator

- (2) Dr. Nancy Shankle – Associate Vice Chancellor & Provost
- (3) Alex Mathai – Library and Writing Center Coordinator
- Winners will be determined by a panel of three judges who will assess your work based on set criteria. Once submissions are closed, the judges will reflect on the submitted writings and winners will be decided. You can best expect the winners to be announced by May 1, 2026.

Winners:

- Each winner (1st, 2nd, 3rd) will receive a certificate, their submitted work published on our website, and sponsored prizes
 - Students retain the right to their intellectual property
 - Winners may be subject to a photo op for publication on our website
- Prize Sponsors: Half Price Books/Nothing Bundt Cake/Raising Cane's/Wonderful Words Bookshoppe/RELLIS Merch

Rules & Guidelines

- Participants: Current students taking classes on the RELLIS campus may participate
- Word Count: No more than 5,000 words
- Formatting:
 - Acceptable file types: Word or PDF
 - Font type: Legible font (i.e. Times New Roman, Arial, Comic Sans, Helvetica)
 - Font Size: 11-14
- No Name on the submitted paper
- Submitted work written primarily in English
 - May include phrases or terms in other languages if applicable

Academic Integrity

- Please proofread before submitting and remove any comments
- Submissions must be the author's own original work. Plagiarism or the use of AI-generated writing tools is not permitted and will result in immediate disqualification.
- May submit new works or non-award-winning/unpublished past works

- Students are encouraged to use the Writing Center while preparing their submission. To avoid any conflict of interest, contest participants may work only with Ann or Kaitlyn for Writing Center consultations related to their entry.

How to Submit

- Send an email to writingcenter@rellis.tamus.edu with the subject line “RELLIS Writing Competition Spring 2026”, your full name in the description, and a copy of your work. Your email address will be how we get in contact with you if you place.

