



The 2018 Will McDonough Writing Contest Contest Guidelines

Students can create a fiction or non-fiction essay on sports or choose from one of the following topics:

1. Great Moments in Sports

Write a narrative essay (fiction or non-fiction) about watching or playing in a great Boston sports moment.

2. New England Sports Teams

New England is home to many great sports teams. Write an essay about which team you think is the most popular in New England. Include evidence to support your opinion.

3. Good Sportsmanship/Bad Sportsmanship

Write a narrative essay (either fiction or non-fiction) about an individual or a team who has displayed exceptionally good or exceptionally poor sportsmanship.

4. Winter Olympics

The International Olympic Committee recently banned Russia's Olympic team from competing in the 2018 Winter Games in Pyeongchang, South Korea, after evidence of cheating in previous Olympic Games. Write a persuasive essay as to whether or not this is fair.

Judging Criteria

Entries will be judged on how well they express and support ideas, opinions, and claims. Essays will also be judged on creativity, writing style, and how well they hold the readers' attention. Students may use primary and secondary sources in their essay. Please include a bibliography and documentation if needed.

Maximum Length of Essays

Grades 4-5 400 Words Grades 9-10 600 Words

Grades 6-8 500 Words Grades 11-12 700 Words

NOTE: Bibliographies and essay titles do not count toward word totals.

All entries must be submitted online or postmarked on or before **February 21, 2018***. Winning essays will be featured in the Will McDonough Exhibit in The Sports Museum, located within the TD Garden. First-place winners will receive a Kindle, be invited to participate in the award ceremony in The Sports Museum, and the Celtics game on March 11th. Tickets **cannot** be substituted for any other game.

Winners will be announced via The Sports Museum's website (www.sportsmuseum.org) on March 5th.

* Please be advised the deadline is during February vacation.

**The 2018 Will McDonough
Writing Contest
Presented by**



Entry Form

Each participant must attach this form to his/her essay. Entries with incomplete forms will not be accepted.

- Entries must be submitted online (*www.sportsmuseum.org*), or mailed by **February 21, 2018***.
- The decisions of the judges are final.
- Essays become the property of The Sports Museum.

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Title of Essay: _____

School Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____

School Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

School Phone: _____

Parent/Caregiver Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Parent/Caregiver Release

I/We understand that The Sports Museum may use the essay, in its original or adapted form, for publicity or commercially distributed publications for no additional compensation and may use the entrant's name and/or likeness. We hereby grant such uses.

Parent or Caregiver

Student Signature

Date

Date

Please submit entries to the following address:

Deborah Kim
Will McDonough Writing Contest
The Sports Museum
100 Legends Way
Boston, MA 02114

* Please be advised the deadline is during February vacation.