



## The 2019 Will McDonough Writing 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. Game Changers**

Write an essay on who you think is the most influential person in sports. This can be a person who changed athletics, the community, or culture. Provide 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. eSports**

eSports (video gaming) have become increasingly popular. Players train, gain sponsorships, and compete in tournaments with millions of viewers both online and in arenas. Write a persuasive essay as to whether or not eSports should be considered a sport.

### 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 **March 8, 2019**. 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 an award ceremony in The Sports Museum, and the Celtics game on **April 1<sup>st</sup>**. Tickets **cannot** be substituted for any other game.

Winners will be announced via The Sports Museum's website ([www.sportsmuseum.org](http://www.sportsmuseum.org)) on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

**The 2019 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](http://www.sportsmuseum.org)) or mailed by **March 8, 2019**.
- 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