

Skagit County Historical
Museum's 3rd Annual
Writing Contest
"SEEDS FOR THE FUTURE"



**Entries must be received by
March 31, 2023**

WELCOME TO SKAGIT COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM'S 3RD ANNUAL ESSAY AND POETRY WRITING CONTEST

The Skagit County Historical Museum is tasked with preserving and presenting the rich and unique history of our beautiful county. For the museum's 3rd annual writing contest, we hope to inspire writers and poets young and old from diverse communities and cultures within Skagit County to create a poem or essay about "Seeds for the Future."

Authors must incorporate "seeds" into their poem or essay. Think of something that is being done or has been done within the county that may have a lasting impact.

One example is seed farming. Did you know that Skagit Valley grows a 3rd of the world's seed crops for spinach, beet, and cabbage? In the late 18th century, Skagit County farmers started planting seed crops. That idea has had a bigger impact than those farmers could have imagined. Local farmer Dave Hedlund stated, "the seeds used to grow cabbage for sauerkraut in Germany or kimchi in Korea probably came from the Skagit Valley."

Another example is the new La Conner-Swinomish library. The seed is the La Conner community and the Swinomish tribe coming together to build a new library. The resources within the new library will help create new knowledge that can strengthen the community for years to come.

Hopefully, these examples will inspire your ideas about seeds for the future within Skagit County. What happens today will be history tomorrow.

Entries will be read by our esteemed panel of judges. Your essay or poem will be judged based on:

- 75% Content and creativity
- 25% Mechanics and writing style

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

1. Entries must be received at the museum by March 31, 2023
2. To participate you will need to write an essay or poem related to the theme “Seeds For The Future.”
3. There are two contest categories to be judged:
 - Essay
 - Poetry
4. There are 3 divisions:
 - Youth ages 13 and younger
 - Youth 14 to 18 years of age
 - Adults over 18 years of age
5. Entries can be submitted via mail or email.

By mail send to:
Skagit County Historical Museum
PO Box 818
501 4th Street
La Conner, WA 98257

By email send to:
museum@co.skagit.wa.us
6. Winners will be announced on Thursday, May 4th, 2023
7. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top 2 winners in each category and division.

1st place prizes:

Adult \$200
Youth 14-18 \$100
Youth 13 and younger \$50

2nd place prizes:

Adult \$100
Youth 14-18 \$50
Youth 13 and younger \$25

CONTEST RULES

- Essay entries must be at least 500 words and no more than 2,000 words in length with 1 entry per person.
- For poems, no more than 2 poem entries per person, and each poem must be no more than 1 page in length.
- Each entry must have a cover page with the author's name, phone number, mailing address, email address, and a brief statement telling us about yourself.
- Do not write your name on the actual essay or poem. This will allow judging to be objective and focus on the essay or poem.
- All entries will be archived at the Skagit County Historical Museum.