



# Community Board 17 Youth & Education 2026



## Essay Writing Competition!

**Calling all writers!**

Official Start Date:  
**February 18, 2026**

Submission Deadline:  
**June 18, 2026**

**All Elementary, Middle and  
High School Students!**



For registration details, and Guidelines:  
<https://cbbrooklyn.cityofnewyork.us/cb17/committees/education/>

- Interim Chairperson: Monzurat Oni
- District Manager: Sherif Fraser
- Committee Chair: Gail Grandison

**718-434-3072**





# The City of New York

## COMMUNITY BOARD 17

4112 Farragut Road, Brooklyn, NY 11210

Tel: (718) 434-3072 Fax: (718) 434-3801

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Trisha Louison  
By-Laws

Melaine Wilkerson  
Sergeant in Arms

**Sherif Fraser**

*District Manager*

## Youth & Education Essay Writing Competition - Extended

Dear Principals, Educators, Students, and Families,

The **Community Board 17 Youth & Education Committee** is pleased to invite schools and students in **Elementary, Middle, and High School** who live in or attend schools in the Community Board 17 District to participate in the **CB 17 Essay Writing Competition**. This initiative is designed to encourage creativity, critical thinking, and a love for writing among students across our district. Participants are invited to create an original fiction story in one of the following genres:

- Humorous – Light-hearted, funny, entertaining stories
- Adventurous/Action – Fast-paced, exciting journeys
- Western – Set in the American Old West
- Science Fiction (Sci-Fi) – Technology, futuristic worlds, or space exploration
- Fantasy – Magic, mythical creatures, imaginary worlds
- Fairy Tale – Magical tales with original twists

### **Why Participate?**

The CB 17 Essay Writing Competition offers students the opportunity to:

- Express their creativity and voice through storytelling
- Strengthen writing, grammar, and critical thinking skills
- Receive recognition for their academic and creative efforts
- Compete for valuable prizes and awards

### **Important Dates**

• **Official Start Date: February 18, 2026**

• **Submission Deadline: June 18, 2026**

All essays must be submitted by the deadline to be considered.

### **Categories & Word Count Requirements**

| Category      | Grade Levels     | Maximum Word Count |
|---------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Elementary    | 1st – 5th Grade  | Up to 400 words    |
| Middle School | 6th – 8th Grade  | Up to 500 words    |
| High School   | 9th – 12th Grade | Up to 1400 words   |

### **Prizes & Recognition**

Prizes will be awarded for **1st, 2nd, and 3rd place**.

- Elementary School
- Middle School
- High School

### Special Recognition Awards, such as:

- Best Character
- Most Creative Plot
- Most humorous or sentimental plot

### Rules

Submission Requirements: Each entry must include a cover page with the following clearly listed:

Student's Full Name

- Grade Level
- School Name
- Teacher's name
- Email
- **Parent Name (For students in grades 1-8, parental information is required)**
- **Parent Email**
- **Parent Cell #**

Please use the following link if you want to register online: <https://forms.gle/oPAXJyjW9pM9Tsg17>

### Where to submit Essays

- **Drop off essay at the Community Board 17 office, 4112 Farragut Road, Cr. Albany Avenue**
- **Email essay to: [youth-education@cb17.org](mailto:youth-education@cb17.org)**

### The essays will be judged based on the following criteria:

- Essays must be original, unpublished, and written by the student.
- Creativity & Originality: How imaginative and unique the story is.
- Plot, Character & Theme Development: Focuses on how well the story comes together
- Organization & Structure: Evaluates how well the essay is organized.
- Grammar, Spelling & Punctuation:
- Looks at writing mechanics: How you use words to bring the story to life
- Cited sources if used within the essay
- Be sure to do a spell check before submission

### Formatting Guidelines

- Typed entries: 12 pt. font, Times New Roman, Calibri, or Arial (**No Italics**)
- Double-spaced
- Handwritten entries must be neat and legible. (Type papers preferred)

### Disqualification Conditions

#### Entries will be disqualified if they:

- Contains plagiarized content
- Late entries after the deadline
- Offensive content that is derogatory or hate speech
- AI-generated content will be automatically disqualified. (E.G. Chat GPT, Co-pilot, Gemini, etc.)
- Format & Lengths
- Work that has been previously submitted or online.
- Missing info such as name, contact info, or school, etc.
- Uncited sources, if any.

For any further information, please contact Community Board 17 at 718-434-3072 or email us at: [youth-education@cb17.org](mailto:youth-education@cb17.org)

**E-Mail:** [bk17@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:bk17@cb.nyc.gov)

**Website:** [nyc.gov/brooklyn17](http://nyc.gov/brooklyn17)



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## Essay Writing Competition Registration Form

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher (if Applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent\Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Must be filled out for students in 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades

Parent/Guardian Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Choose a Genre (Circle One):

**Humorous** | **Action/Adventure** | **Western** | **Sci-Fi** | **Fantasy** | **Fairy Tale**

WritingWriting

I confirm that this submission is the student's original work

### Where to submit Essays

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**E-Mail:** [bk17@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:bk17@cb.nyc.gov)

**Website:** [nyc.gov/brooklyncb17](http://nyc.gov/brooklyncb17)