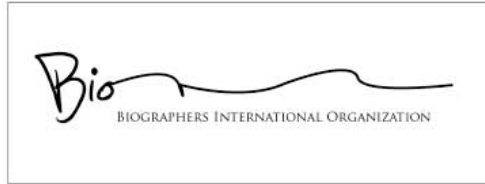
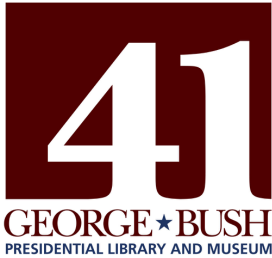


# 2018 Young Spurs writing contest



## *the mayborn*

literary nonfiction conference

July 20-22, 2018  
Grapevine, Texas

### ELIGIBILITY

High school students who are freshmen-seniors as of the contest deadline are eligible.

### STIPEND AWARD RECIPIENTS RECEIVE

The writers of the top 10 stories as selected by our judges will each be awarded a stipend award to attend the Mayborn Literary Nonfiction Conference in Grapevine, Texas, on July 20-22, 2018. The scholarship covers conference registration, hotel rooms (two nights) and meals for the students and their teacher/writing mentor. A small travel stipend may be available.

Winners will participate in an afternoon writing workshop Friday, July 20, from 12:30-5:30 p.m., and will be recognized during the Friday night dinner at the conference. The top essays also will be published by *The Dallas Morning News*. All activities are held in the conference hotel.

### CONTEST THEME & DETAILS

The 2018 Young Spurs theme is “Genius through History, Past and Modern.” Students should submit original literary nonfiction essays researching, analyzing, and using critical thinking processes to explore the presence of individual genius historically and or in the present time. Consider the development of character.

Your work on this theme:

- Must be well researched and include a cited bibliography (per MLA, APA, Chicago Style, etc. guidelines) of at least five reliable sources (interviews, books, magazines or online research).
- Must be your original work and written in a compelling narrative style that enlarges and illuminates our understanding of the event or character you’re writing about.
- Must be well organized, with a beginning, middle and end, demonstrating a command of the event or subject matter.
- Must use correct syntax, grammar, spelling and punctuation.
- You may receive help, advice and counsel from teachers or other mentors. You may also obtain assistance in typing your paper, but the writing, thoughts and conclusions must be your own.

- Please use Arial font, 12-point type and double-space with one-inch margins.
- The entry must be a minimum of 1,200 words (five pages) NOT including the reference page(s) and no more than 2,000 words (8 pages) NOT including the reference page(s).
- As a general guideline, the average length of most submissions is 1,500 words.
- Please number the pages; the student's name should appear in the header.

## Winners

The winners and their teachers/mentors will be notified on or about May 1. In advance of the workshop/conference, each Young Spur will be sent copies of all workshop submissions, with critique sheets and instructions. Each Young Spur is expected to carefully read all of the submissions in their assigned workshop and complete the critique sheets. The critique sheets are to be brought to the workshop and shared with each writer. The workshop leader will also present each workshop participant with suggestions on ways to revise and improve the work.

## SUBMITTING

- To submit your entry directly to the Mayborn's Young Spur contest, the application form beginning on the next page **MUST** be filled out, signed, scanned and emailed to [mayborncontest@unt.edu](mailto:mayborncontest@unt.edu) no later than 11:59 p.m. CST March 15, 2018.
- The same email **MUST** include an electronic copy of the entered work (Word document).
- The subject line **MUST** read *Young Spurs Submission*. **Late entries are NOT accepted.**
- Entries submitted via the Bush Presidential Library contest, which deadlines March 8, 2018, must conform to that contest's submission guidelines. Information on entry via the Bush Library contest is found online at <http://bush41.org/art-essay-contests>.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

JoAnn Livingston

Writing Contest Coordinator

[mayborncontest@unt.edu](mailto:mayborncontest@unt.edu)

214-403-5853 cell phone (Don't hesitate to call).

# 2018 YOUNG SPURS CONTEST APPLICATION FORM

DEADLINE: 11:59 p.m. CST March 15, 2018

Complete this form; fill it out legibly and completely. The form must be signed, scanned and emailed back to [mayborncontest@unt.edu](mailto:mayborncontest@unt.edu) along with a Word document of the entry/work being submitted.

**Title of the entry** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student writer's name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student writer's birthdate (month, date, year)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student or parent email address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of school** \_\_\_\_\_

**City in which school is located** \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher's name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email address of teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone number(s) of teacher:**

**Work** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of student writer (please print)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of student writer**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Name of teacher/writing mentor (please print)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of teacher/writing mentor**

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