

NON-FICTION JUDGING RUBRIC

Entry # _____

Judge # _____

Criteria	Excellent 4 points	Good 3 points	Fair 2 points	Poor 1 point	Judge's Score
Lead Paragraph	Hooks reader with action, dialogue, or thoughts.	Introduces story but only minimally hooks reader.	Lead does not clearly introduce story or grab reader's attention.	No lead. Doesn't grab the reader's attention.	
Viewpoint Scene Setting & Details	The story is written in appropriate viewpoint and details. Consistently uses senses to set scene and describe memorable moments or characters. Shows, not tells.	Written in appropriate viewpoint. Incorporates some senses to set scene, moments, and/or characters. May contain limited or unnecessary details.	Appropriate viewpoint and details. Scene and characters described but not 'shown.' Some unnecessary detail.	Inappropriate viewpoint and details. Tells not shows scene or character descriptions. Transitions rough. Too much unnecessary detail.	
Story Structure	Fact-based story, well organized and focused. Flows smoothly. Compelling anecdotes or facts. Engages reader.	The story has an organized focus but may not have enough facts or smooth transitions or engage reader.	The focus of the story may be unclear, unorganized, or lack, facts, or emotion. May have rough transitions.	The story lacks organization, focus, plot, conflict, smooth flow, and/or reader engagement.	
Grammar Spelling Syntax & Punctuation	Story has 0-1 errors per page.	Story has 2-3 errors per page.	Story has 4-5 errors per page.	Story has 6 or more errors per page.	
Reflections or meaning	Author's reflections, analysis, or theme is clear. Conclusion or meaning is memorable to reader.	Minimal author reflections, analysis, or theme. Leaves reader with limited memory of the story.	No or minimal author reflection, analysis, or theme. May not be memorable.	No author reflections or analysis. Story lacks meaning and not memorable.	

Recommend for inclusion in Anthology? Yes No

Score (out of 20 points) _____

Judge's Comments: