

The Donald Drury Award in Creative Writing 2026 Guidelines

The Creative Writing Program at Long Beach City College is pleased to present the Donald Drury Award in Creative Writing. The award is given annually to one or more creative writing students whose work shows outstanding merit in the genre of either poetry or prose fiction. This award was established by the friends and family of Donald Drury, who died in 1989, to honor his distinguished career as a teacher of creative writing. The guidelines of the award were set by the friends and family of Donald Drury who funded the competition under the auspices of the Drury Award, Long Beach City College Foundation.

Guidelines

1. Entrants must be enrolled full-time at LBCC (12 units or more) and completed one of the following LBCC Creative Writing Courses during the academic year of the award: English 26, English 50A-D, English 51A-D, English 52A-D, or 627.
2. Writing submitted to the competition must have been produced to fulfill requirements in one of the above listed courses and must have been completed during the current academic year.
3. Entrants must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0.
4. All submissions are electronic and must be sent via the following link:
<http://www.creativewritinglbcc.org/donald-drury-award.html>
5. All manuscript entries must be formatted as a Microsoft Word document or PDF.
6. Entries must be the original work of the entrant.
7. **Deadline for submissions is 11:59 p.m. PST, Friday, April 17, 2026.**
8. Entrants may submit in one genre only. Past winners in a given genre are ineligible in that genre.
9. Winners will be announced in May on the Creative Writing website:
<http://www.creativewritinglbcc.org/home-1.html>
10. Judges' decisions are final. If no manuscript meets award criteria in a given year, no award will be granted that year.

Fiction:

Submit one story OR, from a novel, a single chapter or scene that stands alone, i.e. operates as a discreet piece of writing. Maximum length is 15 pages. Manuscripts must be neatly formatted with 12-point type, double spaced, and must have one-inch margins. Short title and page numbers must appear as headers in the top right of each page. Entries are judged anonymously. **Your name should not appear anywhere on the manuscript.**

Poetry:

Submit up to 10 poems, not exceeding 10 pages in total manuscript length. Manuscripts must be neatly formatted, single-spaced with one-inch margins. The title of a poem should appear above each poem. Entries are judged anonymously. **Your name should not appear anywhere on the manuscript.**