

Celebrate Calais With Words!

The Calais Bicentennial Committee, the Calais Free Library, and Off the Coast Literary Journal are sponsoring a **writing contest** to coincide with the **Calais Bicentennial Celebration: July 31 – August 8, 2009.**

There are two distinct and separate sections included in this writing contest. One is a **poetry contest**; any type of poetry is acceptable. There is a **40-line maximum limit**, however.

The poetry will be judged in three separate age groups:

Up to Grade 6
Grade 7 – Grade 12
Adults

The other section is a far more generalized area of all different forms of writing, which will be referred to as the **“Essay Contest.”** This entry might be a short story, a biography, an historic event, etc.

There are three separate age groups with three separate guidelines:

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| Up to Grade 6 | 300 words or less |
| Grade 7 – Grade 12 | 750 words or less |
| Adults | 1,000 words or less |

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| <p>\$100.00 will be awarded to the winners in each of the three age groups in both the Poetry and the Essay Contests, and \$50.00 will be awarded to the second place winners in each age group and category. Celebrity judges, including Maine State Poet Laureate, Betsy Sholl, will help choose the winners. Entries will be accepted up to and including April 30, 2009. No entries will be accepted after this date.</p> |
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All entries should be about some aspect of Calais, its history, or maybe its future.

Topics might include (but are not limited to) the following:

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|------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| St. Croix River | Childhood memories | Historical event |
| | A favorite summer or winter day | |
| St. Croix Island | Life in Calais now | Life in Calais in the future |

Each contestant may enter **one** poem and **one** essay.

Please be sure to include the age group and all contact information (name, address and telephone number) on the **back** of **each** page submitted

Please mail or drop off the entry at the Calais Free Library:

Celebrate Calais With Words Contest
9 Union Street
Calais, Maine 04619

Or e-mail entries to: calaisfreelibrary@hotmail.com

(remember - list all the contact information and age group in the e-mail)

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| <p>Contest winners will be recognized at a literary evening to be held on Wednesday, August 5, 2009 @ Washington County Community College.</p> |
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Winning entries and historical poetry will be read. Sam Coltart will provide music.

Door prizes of \$25.00 each will be drawn

Calais Bicentennial Quilt Raffle winner to be drawn

An ice cream social will follow the program

For more information, please contact: E. Marilyn Sotirelis, @ Calais Free Library: 207- 454 – 2758

