

Fourteenth Annual Paton Storytelling Contest - 2010

Sponsored by The Friends of Russell Library

Jack Paton lived and worked in Middletown for many years as a writer, editor, reporter, teacher, and university administrator. His wife Sybil shared his fascination with people. They knew that “everyone has a story to tell,” and encouraged others to put their memories into words. In their honor, the Friends of the Russell Library present an annual writing contest for people who have lived or worked in Middletown.

This year, we *suggest* the theme of “Large Issues.” We face many issues as a nation. In our personal lives, we confront pressing matters each day. Think how you or an imagined person or a real person in the past has handled such issues. Use your memory to re-capture the experience, or draw from your imagination how it might have been, or how you wish it could have happened. This is just a suggestion. *Tell your own story!*

Who is eligible? You are eligible to enter this contest if you have lived or worked in Middletown and if you are over 25 years of age. There are two age categories for entries to be judged:
A) 25-49 years of age
B) 50 years of age and older
Or, you may submit a piece, but not have your entry judged for competition.

Criteria:

- 1) Your entry should be about a single event, possibly on the theme of “Large Issues.”
- 2) The story must be an original work, previously unpublished.
- 3) Your entry may be handwritten, but it must be legible. Illegible entries will be disqualified. For those with writing difficulties, a family member or friend can write it from dictation.
- 4) All entries must be on 8 ½” x 11” paper.
- 5) Please submit the original and six copies with the entry form. Keep a copy for yourself, as the entries will not be returned.
- 6) Please do not write your name or initials on your entry or the copies. The stories are judged anonymously.

Deadline: Entries should be sent to the Library, or brought to the Circulation Desk, by Saturday, October 2, 2010, at 5 pm. Mark the envelope “Paton Storytelling Contest.” Late entries will not be considered.

Contest Judges: Edwin Hoey, editor; Robert White, author; Maria Johnson, writer/editor/teacher, Joan Shapiro, writer/teacher, Laura Arnold and Christie Arnold, family members; Arthur Meyers, Library Director.

Winners will be announced in November. Entries will be added to the Russell Library collection. A reception for all of the entrants, their friends and families will be held at the Library on Wednesday, November 17, at 7:00 pm, when the prizes will be awarded.

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Please print:

Fourteenth Annual Paton Storytelling Contest Application

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Category A

Category B

Title of entry:

I give do not give permission to include my entry in the bound anthology in the Russell Library collection.

I give do not give permission to include my entry on the Russell Library website.

