Fact Sheet

To support, empower, and honor Newark’s young writers.

Writing Prompt

- If someone who had never visited Newark asked what it’s like to live here, what’s a story only you could tell? Write that story in the form of a real memory, personal essay, or fictional short story. Show the reader the place you call home, be it your local park, your neighborhood grocery store, or your own kitchen.

Important Information

- The contest is open to students in grades 9-12 and high-school aged youth living in Newark.
- Winners will be selected by qualified judges.
- Winners will receive cash prizes.
- Submissions begin in September and close in December. Winners will be announced in March, 2023.
- Writing workshops for youth during the submission period will take place at the Main, North End, Springfield and Van Buren library branches.
- Winners will have the opportunity to share their submissions publicly.
- This writing contest is for fiction or nonfiction writing that is place-based in Newark. We will accept real memories, personal essays, and fictional short stories.