



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region I
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF PANGASINAN II

Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

July 12, 2024

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 324, s. 2024

TO: **Public Schools District Supervisors**
District Coordinators in LRMS (Elementary)
School Heads in Elementary
All Others Concerned

SUBJECT: **DIVISION STORYBOOK WRITING COMPETITION**

PARTICULARS

1. There shall be a **Division Storybook Writing Competition** to be held on **July 29, 2024** at SDO Pangasinan II, Binalonan, Pangasinan.
2. All districts are advised to submit 1 storybook entry in any category of their choice to the CID EPSs Office on or before July 29, 2024.
3. Attached herewith are the STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS, MECHANICS as well as the OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM (to be filled-out by the writer) of the 2024 Storybook Writing Competition which were given earlier and shared to the District Learning Resource Coordinators.
4. The SDO CID LR unit will select 3 winners per contest category. The first place winner in each contest category will automatically join the Regional Competition in Storybook Writing.
5. For information, guidance, and strict compliance of all concerned.

VIVIAN LUZ S. PAGATPATAN PhD, CESO VI
OIC, Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

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MARCIANO J. SOFIANO, JR., PhD, CESO VI
Assistant Schools Division Superintendent

Guico Street, Canarvacanan, Binalonan, Pangasinan



DepEd Pangasinan II
Infoboard Group



pangasinan2@deped.gov.ph



www.depedpang2.ph

APPROVED FOR TRANSMISSION:

ARVIN R. PURISIMA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER V

**GENERAL GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS OF THE GAWAD TEODORA ALONSO
2024 (6TH NATIONAL COMPETITION ON STORYBOOK WRITING)**

I. RATIONALE

The Department of Education (DepEd) is committed to resolving basic education challenges by promoting the love of reading as a foundation for national literacy, as highlighted in the MATATAG Agenda. This is manifested through the several reading and literacy programs, such as the National Reading Program (NRP) and local reading initiatives, as well as programs with reading and literacy as their key components, such as End-of-School Year Reading Program, National Learning Camp (NLC), and Catch-Up Fridays.

The Gawad Teodora Alonso (GTA), formerly the National Competition on Storybook Writing, is a harvesting program of the BLR that supports the implementation of all reading programs at all governance levels. It is aimed at collecting children's stories and illustrated storybooks as the main resources for reading intervention, remediation, and enrichment.

The stories submitted to the GTA are anchored on the different learning areas of the MATATAG Curriculum and are woven with local and cultural concepts that are designed to let familiarity invite young and emergent readers to develop the habit and hobby of reading.

Now in its sixth edition, the GTA is expected to grow its reading treasury, which now comprises hundreds of storybooks and manuscripts. GTA 2024 is the last edition of the Second Volume that addresses the needs for Grades 4, 5, and 6 storybooks. To complete the children's story experience, the GTA 2024 includes a new category of storytelling. This category is aimed at the harvesting of original stories intended for storytelling in short multimedia clips.

II. OBJECTIVES

The GTA 2024 aims to:

1. appreciate the role of stories and illustrated storybooks as a tool in the development of reading and learning curricular content standards;
2. harvest original stories that demonstrate learning competencies of the MATATAG Curriculum;
3. recognize the skills and talents of classroom teachers, non-teaching personnel, education leaders, and learners in the production of storybooks for basic education; and
4. contribute to the treasury of content materials for utilization as reading resources and transformation to engaging media.

III. STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS

1. All works submitted in the Competition shall be unpublished and have not been entered in other competitions.

2. All entries shall not reflect the names of the author, illustrator, layout artist, school, or any other identifiers.
3. Stories must be original. Adaptation and unique retelling of local stories may be done with respect and sensibility and with consideration of indigenous and local traditions.
4. Artworks and texts produced through artificial intelligence (AI) or similar system-generated concepts shall **not** be used in any part of the entries. This provision does not underscore the features of AI; however, the novelty of this art concept needs further discussion in the art community and may be explored in future editions.
5. Internet images, stock photos, and all other non-original art pieces shall not be used.
6. Stories must be written in Filipino. The choice of the Filipino language is limited to logistical considerations (e.g., judging) and shall **not** reflect any bias toward the said language. Furthermore, all harvested stories will be subjected to post-competition activities, which include, among others, the literary translation of stories and rendering to diglot or bilingual versions of these stories.
7. Stories must be based on one or a combination of learning competencies in any learning area/s of the MATATAG Curriculum.
8. Stories shall contain the themes and motifs of tradition, culture, environment, art, and a basic understanding of local concepts. This set of themes and motifs supports the official tagline of #KuwentoNgBayanKo.
9. Stories and illustrations shall adhere to the provisions of the DepEd Social Content Guidelines (see Mechanics and Templates).
10. There shall be **no** accompanying processing questions and supplementary activities in the story.
11. For styling and orthographic purposes, it is recommended to follow the latest version of the Ortograpiyang Pambansa published by the Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino. For other styling concerns not addressed by the said publication, it is recommended to follow the Chicago Manual of Style 17th Edition.
12. The following are the specifications for manuscript submission:
 - 12.1 The number of words for Grades 1, 2, and 3 must not exceed 2,000;
 - 12.2 The number of words for Grades 4, 5, and 6 must not exceed 5,000;
 - 12.3 All entries must be typed in a word processing service (e.g., MS Word) using any serif typefaces in single space, size 12;
 - 12.4 There shall be no identification on submitted entries other than the title and the story itself; and
 - 12.5 Learning competencies covered shall be placed in the last part of the manuscript, written in italics, flushed right.
13. The following are the specifications for illustration and design:
 - 13.1 Page extent shall be any of the following: **20, 28, 36, or 44 pages**. The breakdown of the page extent follows 4 cover pages (front cover, inside front cover, inside back cover, back cover) and a varying number of pages divisible by 8.
 - 13.2 The Front Cover Page shall reflect the following information:
 - Title of the storybook, styled in headline case,
 - Cover art, and



- Provision for the logo of the DepEd (upper right) and the Gawad Teodora Alonso golden seal (lower right).
- 13.3 Front and Back matters include the following:
- Provision for copyright page (inside front cover), which shall be left blank
 - Title page, containing stripped down version of the Cover Page and the list of learning competencies covered, and
 - Provision for author and illustration boxes (inside the back cover), which shall be left blank.
- 13.4 The story's presentation shall be by panel, using either the whole-page style or the two-page-spread style.
- Option 1: For each panel sequence (two-page spread), text may be placed on one page and the illustration on the adjacent page to facilitate picture-aided reading.
 - Option 2: For each panel sequence (two-page spread), text and illustration may be placed together to facilitate a visually comprehensible story reading.
 - Option 3: For each panel (whole page), text and illustrations may be placed together to facilitate a visually comprehensible story reading.
- 13.5 All stories must start on a verso (left) page after the Title Page.
- 13.6 The Back Cover Page shall contain a short synopsis and/or a teaser to the story. The synopsis shall introduce the plot of the story without giving away the whole storyline.

14. The following are the specifications for wordless storybooks:

- 14.1 Page extent shall be any of the following: **20 or 28 pages**. The breakdown of the page extent follows 4 cover pages (front cover, inside front cover, inside back cover, back cover) and a varying number of pages divisible by 8;
- 14.2 Only one (1) word is allowed for a wordless storybook, including in the count any label, symbol, grapheme, or fancy fonts placed in conspicuous spaces, items, and objects, and any other text necessary for the development of the story;
- 14.3 The Back Cover Page shall contain a synopsis or a teaser of the story in illustration, with no text; and
- 14.4 All other standards and specifications in the Illustration (Item 13 of these Guidelines) shall be followed in the preparation of wordless storybooks.

IV. MECHANICS AND QUALIFICATIONS

1. Writing and illustration of stories shall be done **outside** of office hours.
2. There will be six categories in the GTA 2024. Each category has its own set of mechanics, qualifications, and templates (See attached Mechanics and Templates for each category).
3. Category 1 is Storybooks for Young Readers, with three levels: Grades 4, 5, and 6.
4. Category 2 is Storybooks for Emergent Readers, dedicated to wordless storybooks for Kindergarten.
5. Category 3 is Stories for Beginning Readers, with three levels: Grades 1, 2, and 3.

6. Category 4 is Storytelling Sessions, with two subcategories: Recorded Storytelling and Live Storytelling.
7. Category 5 is Stories for Habit and Hobby Readers, a category intended to collect manuscripts for Key Stage 2 anchored on the DepEd MATATAG Agenda: Literacy, Values Education, Peace Education, and Health Education. This is a non-competitive category for education leaders and interested non-DepEd civil servants.
8. Category 6 is Stories for Young Readers by Young Writers, a category intended to involve the end-users themselves. This contest collects experiences of the learners in the form of children's short stories.

V. HONORARY AND SPECIAL AWARDS

1. Gawad Teodora Alonso
 - 1.1 The Gawad Teodora Alonso is awarded to three-time winning writers of the Second Volume in Category 1, the main category of the Competition. Teodora Alonso, the namesake of the award, was the mother and first teacher of Jose Rizal, inculcating in him values and learning through reading stories from the Bible and children's books.
 - 1.2 Winning writers of the Top 5 entries in Category 1, regardless of ranking, shall be given one point per winning storybook.
 - 1.3 The point system is cumulative across the Second Volume. The 4th National Competition on Storybook Writing, conducted in 2022, is the reckoning edition of the point system.
 - 1.4 Former winners of the Gawad Teodora Alonso are no longer eligible for this honorary award.
 - 1.5 Only the writers of the winning storybooks are eligible for the Gawad Teodora Alonso.
2. Gawad Fernando Amorsolo
 - 2.1 The Gawad Fernando Amorsolo is awarded to the three-time winning illustrators of the Second Volume in Categories 1 and 2. Fernando Amorsolo, the namesake of the award, was the first Filipino to be conferred as a National Artist of the Philippines for his significant contributions to the development of visual arts in the country.
 - 2.2 Winning illustrators of the Top 5 storybooks in Categories 1 and 2, regardless of ranking, shall be given one point per winning storybook.
 - 2.3 The point system is cumulative across the Second Volume.
 - 2.4 Illustrators who also serve as writers of the winning storybooks will only be credited for their work as illustrators.
3. Readers' Choice
 - 3.1 Readers' Choice Award will be given to three titles per grade level in Categories 1 and 2.
 - 3.2 The mechanics of this special award will be determined by the host region, in coordination with the National Technical Working Committee (NTWC), and as approved by the National Management Committee.
 - 3.3 The writers and illustrators of the winning storybooks in this special category will not gain points for the Honorary Awards.



Annex B: OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM FOR CATEGORY 1

Date of Receipt: _____
Received by: _____

GAWAD TEODORA ALONSO 2023
5th National Competition on Storybook Writing

Category 1: Storybooks for Young Readers

I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

By filling out this form, you are hereby authorizing the Department of Education through the Bureau of Learning Resources to collect information as follows, guided by the Data Privacy Act of 2012. This process is required to operate and manage the conduct of the Gawad Teodora Alonso 2023 (5th National Competition on Storybook Writing).

WRITER ILLUSTRATOR LAYOUT ARTIST

NAME: _____
Age and Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____ Civil Status: _____

II. CONTACT DETAILS

Mobile Number: _____
Landline (if applicable): _____
Address: _____
Email: _____

Name of School/Office: _____
Address of School/Office: _____
District and Division: _____
Position and/or Assigned Grade Level: _____
Designation (if applicable): _____

Name of Immediate Head: _____
Contact Number of School or Immediate Head: _____
Designation of Immediate Head: _____

STORIES SUBMITTED	
Title	Grade Level
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____

III. ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS

I solemnly swear in my honor that the stories submitted are my original creations and are not copied and plagiarized from any existing learning and reading resources in any government, non-government, private, or commercial entities. I am fully aware of the consequences and penalties that may be imposed upon me should this material be proven plagiarized, copied, imitated, or infringing the copyright of existing authors under existing laws, rules, and regulations. I, therefore, affix my signature and that of my immediate head to attest to the accuracy and truthfulness of this Entry Form.

I declare that I have read and have accepted the rules of this competition. I hereby grant the Department of Education exclusive right to exercise copyright and other intellectual property rights, including storage, derivation, and distribution, provided that I be perpetually listed as the main creator of the Work, subject to concurrent rights upon authorization by DepEd.

Signed this ____ day of _____, 2023.

Printed Name and Signature of Writer
Date Signed: _____

Printed Name and Signature of Immediate Head
Date Signed: _____

Annex D: OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM FOR CATEGORY 2

Date of Receipt: _____
Received by: _____

GAWAD TEODORA ALONSO 2023
5th National Competition on Storybook Writing

Category 2: Stories for Beginning Readers

I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

By filling out this form, you are hereby authorizing the Department of Education through the Bureau of Learning Resources to collect information as follows, guided by the Data Privacy Act of 2012. This process is required to operate and manage the conduct of the Gawad Teodora Alonso 2023 (5th National Competition on Storybook Writing).

NAME: _____
Age and Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____ Civil Status: _____

II. CONTACT DETAILS

Mobile Number: _____
Landline (if applicable): _____
Address: _____
Email: _____

Name of School/Office: _____
Address of School/Office: _____
District and Division: _____
Position and/or Assigned Grade Level: _____
Designation (if applicable): _____

Name of Immediate Head: _____
Contact Number of School or Immediate Head: _____
Designation of Immediate Head: _____

STORIES SUBMITTED	
Title	Grade Level
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____

III. ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS

I solemnly swear in my honor that the stories submitted are my original creations and are not copied and plagiarized from any existing learning and reading resources in any government, non-government, private, or commercial entities. I am fully aware of the consequences and penalties that may be imposed upon me should this material be proven plagiarized, copied, imitated, or infringing the copyright of existing authors under existing laws, rules, and regulations. I, therefore, affix my signature and that of my immediate head to attest to the accuracy and truthfulness of this Entry Form.

I declare that I have read and have accepted the rules of this competition. I hereby grant the Department of Education exclusive right to exercise copyright and other intellectual property rights, including storage, derivation, and distribution, provided that I be perpetually listed as the main creator of the Work, subject to concurrent rights upon authorization by DepEd.

Signed this ____ day of _____, 2023.

Printed Name and Signature of Writer _____
Date Signed: _____

Annex F: OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM FOR CATEGORY 3

Date of Receipt:

Received by:

GAWAD TEODORA ALONSO 2023
5th National Competition on Storybook Writing

Category 3: Storybooks for Emergent Readers

I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

By filling out this form, you are hereby authorizing the Department of Education through the Bureau of Learning Resources to collect information as follows, guided by the Data Privacy Act of 2012. This process is required to operate and manage the conduct of the Gawad Teodora Alonso 2023 (5th National Competition on Storybook Writing).

NAME: _____
Age and Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____ Civil Status: _____

II. CONTACT DETAILS

Mobile Number: _____
Landline (if applicable): _____
Address: _____
Email: _____

Name of School/Office: _____
Address of School/Office: _____
District and Division: _____
Position and/or Assigned Grade Level: _____
Designation (if applicable): _____

Name of Immediate Head: _____
Contact Number of School or Immediate Head: _____
Designation of Immediate Head: _____

STORY SUBMITTED	
Title	_____
_____	_____

III. ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS

I solemnly swear in my honor that the stories submitted are my original creations and are not copied and plagiarized from any existing learning and reading resources in any government, non-government, private, or commercial entities. I am fully aware of the consequences and penalties that may be imposed upon me should this material be proven plagiarized, copied, imitated, or infringing the copyright of existing authors under existing laws, rules, and regulations. I, therefore, affix my signature and that of my immediate head to attest to the accuracy and truthfulness of this Entry Form.

I declare that I have read and have accepted the rules of this competition. I hereby grant the Department of Education exclusive right to exercise copyright and other intellectual property rights, including storage, derivation, and distribution, provided that I be perpetually listed as the main creator of the Work, subject to concurrent rights upon authorization by DepEd.

Signed this ____ day of _____, 2023.

Printed Name and Signature of Writer
Date Signed: _____

Printed Name and Signature of Immediate Head
Date Signed: _____