

2014 Gala Judging Form: Fiction
Black Hills Writers Group

Scoring:

- 5: Excellent and publishable quality
- 4: Good
- 3: Competent but not polished. Average
- 2: Fair
- 1: Poor. Recommend significant rewrite
- 0: Missing/lacking element

Story Title: _____

- _____ Theme: The story fits the theme of "Family."
- _____ Opening: The piece hooks the reader immediately.
- _____ Plot: Chain of events is skillfully developed and moves plausibly from opening to resolution.
- _____ Pacing: The story moves forward appropriately and does not bog down.
- _____ Conflict: The conflict is strong enough to carry the story and important enough to hold the reader's interest.
- _____ Resolution: The story is complete and resolves satisfactorily.
- _____ Characters: Main characters are directly affected by the conflict, skillfully developed, and have believable goals and motivations. Secondary characters serve an adequate purpose in the story and are recognizable.
- _____ Dialogue: Speech is appropriate to the characters, realistic, and necessary to move the plot forward.
- _____ Narrative Devices: Setting, mood, theme, and imagery/metaphor are skillfully developed without overpowering the story itself. Clichés are avoided.
- _____ Voice: Narrative voice is interesting, entertaining, and one the reader wants to spend time reading.
- _____ Mechanics: The story is free of punctuation, spelling, grammatical and formatting errors.
- _____ Overall: How much did you love this piece?

Recommend									Don't Recommend	
10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0

_____ TOTAL SCORE (60 possible points) Judge's Initials: _____

(Judges, please post comments on the back of your score sheet if you don't have enough room on the front. Requests to authors for editing will come from those comments, so if you recommend this piece, be sure to include suggestions for improvement as well as areas of weakness. Thanks.)