

2010 Spur Awards Contest Rules · Western Writers of America, Inc.

Entries are now being accepted for the 2010 Western Writers of America Spur Awards competition.

To be eligible, works submitted must be set in the **American West, the early frontier, or relate to the Western or frontier experience.** Non-members, as well as members, of the WWA, Inc., are encouraged to enter. Works submitted for this competition must have been first published or aired during the **2009 calendar year.** Revised editions may not be entered. Authors may submit multiple works in any category; each submission must be a separate entry. Individual works may be submitted in only one category with the exception of Best First Novel. Works published in *The Roundup* magazine are not eligible for the Spur Award competition.

Categories

Best Western Short Novel. For book-length novels **less than 90,000 words**, works dependent in whole or in part on settings, characters, conditions, or customs indigenous to the American West or early frontier.

Best Western Long Novel. For book-length novels **90,000 words or more**, works dependent in whole or in part on settings, characters, conditions, or customs indigenous to the American West or early frontier.

Best Original Mass Market Paperback. For mass-market (not trade) paperback originals meeting the content requirements of the categories of Best Western Short Novel or Best Western Long Novel. A trade paperback may be entered in either of the above categories; it may not be entered in this category.

Best First Novel. For the best first novel that otherwise meets the requirements of Best Western Short Novel, Best Western Long Novel, Best Original Mass Market Paperback, or Best Western Juvenile Fiction. Entries in this category may also be submitted in the appropriate aforementioned categories.

Best Western Nonfiction – Historical (to 1900). For book-length works focusing primarily on events, persons, places, or developments of the American West up to the year 1900.

Best Western Nonfiction – Contemporary (1900 to present). For book-length works focusing primarily on events, persons, places, or developments of the American West from 1900 to the present.

Best Western Nonfiction – Biography. For book-length works about a person whose life has been associated with the American West or early frontier.

Best Western Short Fiction Story. For works published in magazines, periodicals and anthologies, their creation dependent in whole or in part on settings, characters, conditions, or customs indigenous to the American West or early frontier.

Best Western Short Nonfiction. For works published in magazines, periodicals and anthologies about events, persons, places, or developments related to the American West or early frontier.

Best Western Juvenile Fiction. For book-length novels, the creation of which is dependent in whole or in part on settings, characters, conditions, or customs indigenous to the American West or early frontier and written especially for young readers.

Best Western Juvenile Nonfiction. For book-length works about events, persons, places, or developments related to the American West or early frontier and written especially for young readers.

Best Western Drama Script (Fiction). For a television or motion picture screenplay that was first aired for public viewing in 2009 and contains plot, thrust, focus, and voice depicting elements of the American West (past or present) or early frontier. Submit a screenplay or shooting script. A videotape or DVD may be submitted but are not required.

Best Western Documentary Script (Nonfiction). For a television or motion picture documentary that was first aired for public viewing in 2009 and contains plot, thrust, focus and voice depicting elements of the American West (past or present) or early frontier. Submit a screenplay or shooting script. A videotape or DVD may be submitted but are not required.

Storyteller. For best children's picture book less than 3,000 words, the creation of which is dependent in whole or in part on settings, characters, conditions, or customs related to the American West or early frontier, but written and illustrated for young readers. Both author and artist will receive awards.

Best Western Poem. For an original published poem whose inspiration, image, and literary excellence best represent the reality and spirit of the American West.

Best Western Audiobook. For an original audiobook focusing primarily on events, persons, places, or developments of the American West or early frontier. Submit both manuscript and audio versions.

Best Western Song. For an original recorded song, released for the first time and available to the public, with lyrics dependent in whole or in part on settings, characters, conditions, or customs indigenous to the American West or early frontier. A copy of the lyric sheet and medium (with release date) must be submitted.

Entry Rules

Required for each submission: **One** copy of the published work **and** a completed entry form mailed to **each of the judges** in the appropriate category **as well as to the Spur Awards Chair.**

Entries should be submitted at the earliest possible date, but **must be postmarked no later than January 9, 2010.** Works submitted cannot be returned at the close of contest.

**WWA Spur Awards Chair
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