

Christian Authors Guild — 2009 Catch the Wave Writers' Conference

**NON-FICTION ARTICLE CONTEST
CONTEST & WRITING GUIDELINES**

ENTRY FEE: \$10.00 PER ENTRY

PRIZES FOR FIRST AND SECOND PLACE

Ten (10) Bonus Points will be awarded for entries that adhere to all of the Contest/Writing Guidelines.

- **Deadline for Eligibility:** Entrants must be registered and conference fee paid for the 2009 Fall Conference by August 11, 2008 to be eligible.
- **Contest Entry Fee:** \$10.00 per manuscript entered. Enclose a personal check or money order with your entry.
- **Deadline for Entries:** Entries must be post-marked no later than August 21, 2008
- **Winners** will be announced and awards presented during the Closing Session at the 2009 Fall Conference—must be present to win.
- **Articles** must be written by the author and are not required to have a Christian theme.
- **Typed** on 8 1/2 x 11 inch white paper
- **Separate Cover Page** stapled or paper clipped to top of manuscript labeled Non Fiction Article contest. Include title, author's name, and word count only
- **Do not put author's name** on the manuscript
- **Title and Page Number** only in the footer on all pages (title at left margin; page number centered or right)
- **Double-spaced** (lines and paragraphs)
- **Single-spaced** between sentences
- **Title** in all caps
- **Word count:** 800 to 1,500 words (use computer word count)
- **See the Contest Judging Criteria** for a list of how the submissions will be judged
- **Submit two (2) copies** of each manuscript—stapled or paper clipped. Enclose a self-addressed stamped postcard if you want confirmation your entry was received. Entries received that do not contain the correct amount of postage will be returned.
- **Manuscripts** will not be returned to the authors, so keep a copy for your file

** Before submitting your entry, take time to ensure that you have followed the Guidelines. **

Mail your entry to: Christian Authors Guild, Attn: Non-Fiction Article Contest, P. O. Box 2673, Woodstock, GA 30188

Don't forget to enclose the entry fee.

SAMPLE SUBMISSION FORMAT:

COVER PAGE Non-Fiction Article Contest TITLE By B. A. Writer word count: _____

TITLE
TITLE
Pg. 1

CHRISTIAN AUTHORS GUILD

2009 CATCH THE WAVE WRITERS' CONFERENCE

**NON-FICTION ARTICLE
CONTEST JUDGING CRITERIA**

Maximum ten (10) points per category

1. OPENING: grabs reader's attention.
2. CORRECT GRAMMAR AND SPELLING
3. PROPER PUNCTUATION
4. PUBLISHABILITY:
 - author has unique voice or style
 - voids clichés or redundancy
 - almost ready to submit
 - similar to published material, yet has unique viewpoint that makes it relevant.
5. READER APPEAL: is there an audience for this work?
6. CONTENT:
 - holds interest
 - offers valuable information
 - anecdotes, if possible to illustrate
 - exhibits credits
 - uses appropriate paper, margins, spacing, indentions
7. READABILITY:
 - smooth transitions
 - varied sentence length
 - use of figurative language
 - sentences have appropriate flow and rhythm
 - exhibits expertise in word choice
8. VERB TENSES:
 - maintain one verb tense throughout.
9. STRONG CLOSING:
 - leaves no loose end
 - ties into the opening, if possible
 - leaves reader with a sense of satisfaction or completion
10. FOLLOWED THE GUIDELINES: