

## Fiction 2024

**Purpose:** This event encourages those who enjoy creative writing to use their skills in a Christian arena.

### Process:

- Write a short story that reflects the current year's LTC theme.
- Upload the entry on or before **March 11, 2024**.
- Uploaded files must be .pdf or .doc(x). Do not upload Google Docs.
- Submit your entry as instructed on the NTLTC Submission Event page located at ntltc.org.

### Rules:

1. Include a heading to the front page of the story with the student's name and grade.
2. The story should be typewritten, 12-point Arial, Helvetica or Verdana font, double-spaced with 1" margins, and two to seven pages in length.
3. The story may be written in any form of fiction (e.g., mystery, action, humor, fable, etc., but not poetry) as long as it reflects the current year's LTC theme. The theme may be reflected anywhere in the story, climax, or conclusion. The theme should be obvious in the story and be clearly and accurately taught or presented.
4. The story should use correct grammar and spelling, proper punctuation and proper paragraph and sentence structure.
5. The story should include elements appropriate for fiction, such as plot and character development.
6. Adult assistance should be mainly verbal. Adults may discuss the theme and its possible applications and make verbal suggestions on content and style.
7. Each participant may submit only one entry.
8. There will be five grade levels in this event: Grades 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12.

### Awards:

Ratings and awards of gold, silver, bronze or honorable mention will be given according to the judging criteria listed.

### Judging Criteria:

- **Theme** - Is the LTC theme clearly and accurately taught or presented in the story?
- **Language** - Does the participant use correct grammar and correct spelling? Do word choices enhance the story?
- **Punctuation and Mechanics** - Does the participant use proper punctuation as well as paragraph and sentence structure?
- **Readability** - Is the story readable? Does it include elements appropriate for fiction, such as plot and character development? Does the plot flow easily, or is the story confusing? Does the story catch and hold the reader's attention? Do descriptions help you see the story unfold? Does the introduction make you interested in reading more?
- **Creativity** - How unique is the story in plot, form or expression? Does the story offer a unique perspective of the LTC theme and a creative story?
- **Format** - Did the participant follow instructions for formatting the entry (length, style of presentation, etc.)?
- **Submission** - Did the participant follow instructions for submitting the entry (meeting deadline, uploading properly etc.)?

### Use of Materials Submitted to NTLTC

Ownership of work submitted to NTLTC as a part of NTLTC events remains the property of the submitter. The participant authorizes use of the entry by the NTLTC Board of Directors in any way the Board may deem appropriate. This may include but is not limited to promotion, fund-raising, or training for the purpose of Christian leadership training of youth.