

# Ray Bradbury Creative Contest Public Announcement

The Waukegan Public Library is proud to announce the return of the annual Ray Bradbury Creative Contest! From September 1<sup>st</sup> to October 13<sup>th</sup>, Lake County residents are invited to submit a short story or poem for a chance to win prizes and to be published in our online anthology!

In the spirit of the coming holiday, we're looking for stories and poems about "hauntings." This can range from traditional ghost stories and haunted houses to metaphorical hauntings or other creative takes on the concept. For some inspiration, look to Bradbury's short stories including "The One Who Waits" and "There Will Come Soft Rains."

Adults and students (3<sup>rd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) are welcome to submit their best pieces for a chance to win one of the following prizes:

*For Adults:* Cash prizes worth \$150 and \$75 as well as a copy of "The First Geeks: Ray Bradbury, Forrest J Ackerman, Ray Harryhausen and the Founding of Science Fiction Fandom" by Orton Ortwein.

*For Grades 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>:* Cash prizes worth \$150 and \$75 as well as a graphic novel copy of "Something Wicked This Way Comes" by Ray Bradbury

*For Grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>:* \$150 and \$75 as well as a copy of "The Halloween Tree" by Ray Bradbury.

Only one submission is permitted per person. Submissions can be prose or poetry and in English or Spanish (we will have judges who can read Spanish). They must be saved as a word document or PDF and must be no longer than five pages, single-spaced. The format should be 12 pt. Arial or Times New Roman font. Make sure the file is titled: Bradbury-LAST NAME; FIRST INITIAL. Email the submission as an attachment to [reference@waukeganpl.info](mailto:reference@waukeganpl.info) along with the following information:

- First and last name
- Phone number and/or email address
- Title of the submission
- Age group (Adult, 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>)

PLEASE NOTE: If the submission isn't formatted as required or the above information isn't included or the entrant is not from Lake County, the submission will be disqualified.

Winners will be announced on October 31<sup>st</sup> on our website, after which they can come by the library to pick up their prizes.