



Virginia Outdoor Writers Association, Inc.

## 2009 ANNUAL COLLEGIATE UNDERGRADUATE WRITING COMPETITION

The Virginia Outdoor Writers Association, Inc. (VOWA) is proud to again sponsor a Collegiate Undergraduate Writing Contest. The objective is to encourage young adults to write about their interests in wildlife or natural history, and how those interests have influenced their career choice.

The competition is open to any undergraduate student enrolled at a Virginia college or university, including two-year community colleges, and public and private post-secondary institutions. The theme of the contest is how experiences in the outdoors have influenced the writer's life. Each writer is to title his/her own entry.

The winners will be introduced at the association's annual meeting in the spring of 2010. Winning entries will be published on the association's web site. The first place winning essay will be considered for publication in *Virginia Wildlife Magazine* and attempts will be made to get all winners published in a number of weekly and daily newspapers throughout Virginia.

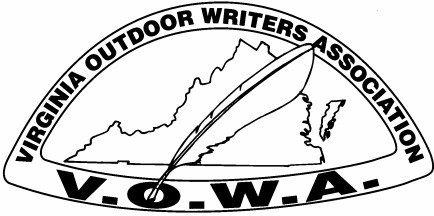
Cash awards of \$250 for first place and \$150 for second place will be presented.

### Contest Rules:

1. Open to all full-time or part-time undergraduate-level college students.
2. Nonfiction only under the directed theme merging career choice and out-door experience.
3. Length: 800 to 1,000 words maximum; the submission must be typed double-spaced.
4. Electronic submissions are encouraged in a Word or plain text attachment to an email.
5. Supporting photos are not required; however, they are welcomed. Photographs may be submitted in digital JPEG format, as prints, or duplicate transparencies where possible. The intent is to publish the winning entry. When photographs are included, they will be considered as a story/photo package. Name and contact information must be on each slide, print, or disc; email attached digital images must have the entrants name included in the "File Info" of the image.
6. Submissions not following the above contest rules will be disqualified.
7. **Submission Deadline:** Electronically dated e-mail or letter postmarked no later than **January 31, 2010**.
8. If there are too few quality entries the judges have the right to declare a "no contest."
9. A biographical cover sheet must be included with the essay. Writer's name **must be on each page of the submission**. This establishes authorship and avoids any confusion with another person's work.
10. A completed **SUBMISSION FORM** (second page below) must also be included with each entry. Signature of parent or guardian is required for entrants who are younger than 18 years of age.
11. Send submissions to:  
Terry Lewis  
5705 Wooden Hawk Lane  
Burke, VA 22015  
Work phone 703/440-1713; FAX 703/440-1701      Email: [Terry\\_Lewis@es.blm.gov](mailto:Terry_Lewis@es.blm.gov)

VOWA encourages Student Membership; the fee is \$10 per year.

**Page down for the submission form**



Virginia Outdoor Writers Association, Inc.

## SUBMISSION FORM

Virginia Outdoor Writers Association, Inc.

Annual Collegiate Undergraduate Writing Contest

**Submission due via e-mail or regular between now and January 31, 2009**

Complete the following information and submit this form with your essay and biographical cover sheet. This will confirm your eligibility and facilitate direct contact to notify contest award winners. Students making submissions will be notified by e-mail or telephone only if they are winners. Award winner names and their essays will be posted on the VOWA web site after announcements are made at the VOWA Annual Spring Meeting Awards Luncheon. Winners and 2 guests will be invited at VOWA's expense; additional guests will also be welcome. Please review and adhere to all the contest guidelines as posted on the VOWA web site: [www.vowa.org](http://www.vowa.org).

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

COLLEGE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ INSTRUCTOR/PROFESSOR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent or Guardian**, please sign the following approval statement for your student who is under age 18 to enter the VOWA Collegiate Undergraduate Writing Contest, in accordance with the rules posted on the VOWA web site. Members of VOWA are granted permission to contact your son/daughter via telephone, e-mail, or regular postal mail regarding their contest submission, for notification of award status, and attending the awards presentation during the VOWA annual 2010 Spring meeting at a time and place to be announced, and/ or planning an award ceremonies at their home institution.

Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information if different from the student information above \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY TITLE (title your own entry) \_\_\_\_\_

Word count \_\_\_\_\_

Send this completed form along with your essay and biographical cover sheet by **January 31, 2010** to:

Terry Lewis

5705 Wooden Hawk Lane

Burke, VA 22015

Work phone 703/440-1713; FAX 703/440-1701

Email: [Terry\\_Lewis@es.blm.gov](mailto:Terry_Lewis@es.blm.gov)