



**Quality programs that inform, involve and inspire**

**PRESS FACT SHEET**

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**KCTS 9 issues call for entries for *Storymakers: A Creative Challenge for Young Writers***

*KCTS 9 celebrates the joy of creative expression and announces a new project supporting the writing process for middle school students in Washington state and British Columbia.*

**Facts Page**

- **What:** KCTS 9 is proud to announce the first-ever *Storymakers Challenge*. ***Storymakers: A Creative Challenge for Young Writers*** seeks to encourage and support self-expression and the writing process for middle school students. Original creative writing pieces may include fiction, non-fiction, poetry and prose.
- **Who:** The ***Storymakers Challenge*** is a competition open to students in sixth, seventh, and eighth grades in Washington state and British Columbia, Canada. All students should submit their own original creative pieces up to a maximum of 1000 words in length.
- **When:** Entries, accompanied by an entry form, must be postmarked by **Wednesday, February 4, 2009**.
- **Information, entry and rules forms:**
  - Can be printed out from the KCTS 9 Web site: **[KCTS9.org/storymakers](http://KCTS9.org/storymakers)**
  - Can be requested by e-mail: **[learning@KCTS9.org](mailto:learning@KCTS9.org)**
  - Can be requested by phone: **1.800.930.6060**
- **Judging:** A panel of local literacy organizations, teachers and librarians will select 10 winners from each grade in February. Entries will be judged on categories reflecting the six traits of writing: ideas, organization, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions and voice.
- **Announcement of winners:** Winners will be announced Monday, March 3, 2009. Thirty top winners, 10 from each grade, will be invited to a Young Writers event at the KCTS 9 studios on Saturday, March 28, 2009.
- **Prizes:** All 30 winners will receive a prize package and will have an opportunity to attend a special Creative Expressions Workshop at the KCTS 9 studios on Saturday, March 28, 2009, to include lunch, writing workshops and a ceremony hosted by a local author. The top nine winners, three from each grade, will be granted free entry into a series of writing workshops with partner literary organizations in Seattle. The top nine winners' stories will also be featured on KCTS9.org. All entrants will receive a Certificate of Achievement signed by a local author.
- **Credits:** ***Storymakers: A Creative Challenge for Young Writers*** is sponsored by KCTS 9, with major funding provided by the Qwest Foundation. KCTS 9 thanks the following partners for their support and collaboration on this project: Richard Hugo House, Seattle Arts & Lectures Writers in Schools Program, 826 Seattle and Bridges to Understanding.

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*The KCTS 9 mission is to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve by providing meaningful programming on air, online and in the community that informs, involves and inspires.*