



## CABE 2024 Student Writing Contest Guidelines

The Student Writing Awards at the CABE 2024 Annual Conference in Anaheim, California will focus on the many advantages of being bilingual/biliterate. The grade themes for this year are:

### **Grades K-2**

How would speaking more than one language and understanding other cultures help you plan a party for people from different cultures who speak many languages? Write a story about how understanding languages and cultures would make everyone at the party happy and excited.

### **Grades 3-5**

How does your ability to speak different languages help you understand and connect with others? Write about how understanding other languages and cultures can create unity, connections, and joy among members of a community.

### **Grades 6-8 and 9-12**

How have your experiences as a bilingual/multilingual individual empowered you to bridge gaps, build connections, and contribute to the vibrant tapestry of diversity within your family and community? Write about how these experiences have helped you embrace diversity, honor your heritage, and celebrate multilingualism.

All students will be acknowledged for their efforts. Winners will be selected by a committee in four grade-level categories, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12, based on the following criteria:

- Content: How well the writing captures the essence of the theme
- Language: The use of expressive, authentic, and rich language
- Genre: The creative use of literary forms, such as short essay, poetry, narrative, biography, or song

Students are encouraged to approach their writing in an imaginative and meaningful manner, expressing themselves in English and another language. Teachers can assist students with focusing on the theme by exploring how their bilingual/biliteracy skills will enhance their opportunities for learning, career, leadership, self-esteem, as well as the development of their cultural legacy in the future. The use of the writing process is encouraged (prewriting, sharing, revising, editing, and publishing) to develop a meaningful and expressive composition. Each composition should focus on the theme and demonstrate final editing quality.

## Criteria

- Compositions should be typed, double-spaced, and three pages maximum.
- Compositions should be submitted in two languages —English and the student’s other language.
- Students must be bilingual/biliterate or learning another language
- Submissions must include a color photo (high resolution, digital format).

One winner per grade-level category will be selected. Students will read their composition or excerpts from the composition during the CAFE 2024 Annual Conference, February 21-24, 2024. The recognition date will be given with the notification letter. Winners will receive four (4) banquet tickets (awardee and 3 guests) along with a monetary prize:

K–2 Grade Level - \$200.00; 3–5 Grade Level - \$300.00; 6– 8 Grade Level - \$500.00 and 9–12 Grade Level - \$1,000.00. Winners will also receive transportation to the CAFE conference along with a one-night stay on Friday night (if needed).

Application submission deadline is Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 11:59 pm PST. Submissions received after the deadline will not be accepted. Please note that students must be a California residents and those who have received the CAFE Student Writing Contest Award within the last three years are not eligible.