

The Paul A. Witty Outstanding Literature Award

Administered by the International Reading Association Special Interest Group for Reading Gifted and Creative Students

In recognition of qualitative excellence in original prose or poetry of individual writing, elementary and secondary students will receive an award of not less than \$50 and a certificate of merit. Send entries by February 2 to the chairperson listed below. A committee will review and judge the entries on the criteria of creativity, beauty of expression, and originality. Final decisions will be made by March 15, with the awards presented at the spring Special Interest Group session at the IRA convention. The winners will receive notification by April 30. The teachers will receive notification of the selected students. The parent(s) of the students selected, that entered the contest independently, will receive notification. If a student wishes to attend the presentation, he/she will do so at his/her own personal expense. Teachers, or parent(s), who submit students' writing should be certain that the work is creative and personally done by the student.

The elementary students' prose entries must be legible or typed and may not exceed 1,000 words. Secondary students' prose entries may exceed 1,000 words if necessary and be typed. For poetry entered, both elementary and secondary level students must submit a set of 5 poems. There is no limit of words for poetry. All entries and requests for applications must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. If you have not received notification that you are among the winners by April 25, you may call Ms. Heiple at 909-982-6907.

The award was initiated, in part, as a memorial to the late Paul A. Witty, one of the International Reading Association founders. Dr. Witty served as professor of education at Northwestern University, and as the chief educational consultant to D.C. Heath and Co., 1940-1976. As author and educator, Paul A. Witty pioneered the application of psychological principles to education. His work focused specifically upon gifted children, and served to dispel old myths about the gifted child and focus on challenging intellectual curiosity and creativity. He was the editor of *Reading for the Gifted and the Creative Student*, published by IRA.

Send entries with self-addressed envelopes to:

Dr. Dorothy Sisk
Lamar University
PO Box 100034
Beaumont, TX 77710

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Student _____

Street Address _____

City/State _____

Zip Code _____

Phone Number () _____

Teacher _____

School Name _____

School Address _____

City/State _____

Zip Code _____

Phone Number () _____

Submit this form with student writing and a self-addressed envelope.

Postmark entries by February 2. You may copy this form to attach multiple entries.

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Beaumont, TX 77710