2026 WILD WORDS: Fiction

Fiction means stories that are invented or made up by the writer. Fiction writers get to make up their own worlds, along with all of the people, animals, rules, histories, and environments inside of those worlds. Your fictional world can be close to real life or very different from real life—anything goes. Some examples of fiction are short stories, flash fiction (very short stories from 1-3 pages long), and novels, including mystery, horror, science fiction, dystopian, historical, and fantasy. Give it a try with these prompts!

* Write a story about two friends who make an unusual pact with one another.

* You're an inventor and you've just created something that will change the world. Tell us about it. What did you create & how will it change things?

* Write a diary entry about the day that aliens crash-landed in the playground.

* Whenever you hear a song, it opens up a door to another place. What does the place look like, smell like, sound like, feel like? What goes on there?

* Expand on part of a book or movie that you wish was more fleshed out. It could be a particular character's backstory or a relationship that happens off the page or off the screen.

* You find a strange egg while walking through the forest, take it home and it hatches. Describe the experience and what was inside.

* Write a story about a family that moves around frequently from place to place—and how all of the different family members feel when they have to make another move.

* Rewrite your favorite fairy tale but make it take place today in the town where you live.

* Think about a true event, then change part of it. For example, write about a trip you took, but add something surprising that didn't actually happen.

* Observe people at a store, park, or another public place. Write a character sketch based on a stranger that you see.

Wild Words: Adirondack Teen Writing Anthology is a new publication of the Adirondack Center for Writing, created to give teens a place to publish their original creative writing.

Open to any teen age 13-19 living in the North County
Deadline: Midnight on March 13,2026
Contact: info@adirondackcenterforwriting.org

Learn more: www.adirondackcenterforwriting.org/wildwords