



Aspiring Authors continue the Legacy of Writing in Faith

Toronto, Ont. - *The Fresh Ink* and *In The Beginning* contests were developed to encourage writers to share their work with others and to provide them with feedback for their writing journey. These emerging writers join the already large number of award-winning Canadian Christian writers.

As Canada celebrates its 150th birthday, *The Word Guild* is pleased to celebrate aspiring writers who continue the legacy of writing in faith.

This year the entrants were asked to write on any subject and could submit in fiction, nonfiction, poetry, first three chapter's and, first fifteen pages of a short script categories.

The *Fresh Ink* contest is designed to encourage University and High School students. For the University/College division the Grand Prize winner wins free admission to the online conference and a cash prize of \$75, and free student membership to The Word Guild. For the High school division the Grand Prize winner wins a mentor session with a professional writer, and a cash prize of \$50.

The *In The Beginning* contest is designed for unpublished writers.

The Grand Prize winner receives a choice of mentoring sessions with a professional or free registration to our online conference. This national event sponsored by The Word Guild is Canada's largest Christian writers' conference.

Runners up will receive a complimentary 1 year **membership** for The Word Guild.

The Grand Prize winner and the runners up of these contests will be recognized at the *2017 Word Awards gala.*

The gala dinner will be held June 23 at Roma's Hospitality Centre 5-5980 Shawson Drive, Mississauga.

ABOUT THE WORD GUILD

The Word Guild is an association of Canadian writers, editors, speakers, publishers, booksellers, librarians, and other Christian individuals. From all parts of Canada and many denominational and cultural backgrounds, they are united in their common passion to positively influence individuals, and ultimately Canadian culture, through life-changing words that bring God's message of hope.

For more information about The Word Guild, The Word Awards, other awards or other events please visit the contest page or visit www.thewordguild.com and click on Contests & Awards.



Fresh Ink Winners

University Category

Grand Prize Winner: Samantha Togeretz of Gatineau, Que. for "Family" (poem)

High School Category

Grand Prize Winner: Joshua Koens of Brantford, Ont. for "The Museum Thief" (short story)

In The Beginning Winners

Grand Prize Winner:

Leah Marizan of Port Dover, Ont. for *Nobody brings you a casserole when your husband goes to rehab* (First 3 chapters – Non-fiction)

Poem Runner Up:

David Busutil of Hornby, Ont. for "Naomi's Lament"

First Three Chapters Runner Up:

Tara Ross of Milton, Ont. for *Not of This World* (Fiction)

Non-fiction Short Piece Runner Up:

Tina Weidelich of Richmond Hill, Ont. for "What I have in common with the Grinch"

Short Story Runner Up:

Patricia Carriere of North Bay, Ont. for "The Long Road Home"

Short Script Runner Up:

Leah Marizan of Port Dover, Ont. for "A Fist Full of Weeds"