School of Languages, Cultures, and Race (SLCR)

Spanish Program

Creative Writing Competition: “Mi ciudad en 100 palabras” (“My City in 100 Words”)

Canta, es mejor si vienes, Sing, it’s better if you come,
tu voz hace falta, your voice is needed,
quiero verte en mi ciudad I want to see you in my city

Luis Le-Bert

“Mi ciudad en 100 palabras” is an initiative that seeks to promote creative writing among the SLCR students of Spanish across campuses and regardless their level of proficiency. Each learner of Spanish language and cultures –starting at 100 level— can produce texts that go above and beyond the mere instrumental acquisition and use of the language. Each learner of Spanish can create literature.

We invite you to submit a short story written in Spanish, a tale of a maximum of 100 words (not counting the title) that creatively reflects on the town or city where you live or have lived. It is not a description of that place but a personal depiction of a special “corner” of the city in which you experienced or witnessed something that marked you, a space that you miss or reject for some reason, a memory of a “character” from that city that became typical of that place, etc. We are looking for all sorts of stories, styles, and approaches: intimate, political, social, comedy, drama, noir, science fiction, memory tale, biographical, autobiographical, testimonial, among others.
Format and submission instructions:
• Submit your story (title and tale) as a Word.doc, double spaced, Times New Roman 12.
• In a separate Word.doc, submit the following information: a) title of your story; b) your name; c) your WSU ID; d) Spanish courses that you have taken at WSU; e) courses that you are currently taking; f) your campus (Global Campus is included.)
• Send these two Word.doc by email to Vilma Navarro-Daniels (navarrod@wsu.edu). In the “Subject” case, please enter: Mi ciudad en 100 palabras.
• It is only one submission per person.

Evaluation of submissions: Your submission will be referred to the correct jury –according to the three categories established for this contest and detailed below— as a “blind copy.” This means that the jurors will not know the name of the authors of the submissions that they will evaluate. We want to guarantee the fairness and transparency of the evaluation process. Once each jury has reached a verdict it will be final. There will be first, second, and third place in each category.

Categories and Jurors: The Creative Writing Competition, “Mi ciudad en 100 palabras,” includes three categories corresponding to the three different levels of the Spanish courses that we offer at the SLCR: elementary, intermediate, and advanced.

Elementary. SPANISH 101-204, 208, 261.
Jurors: Amanda Hussein, Spencer Martin, Maria S. Previto, Begoña de Quintana Las, and Collin Shull.

Intermediate. SPANISH 300 level.

Advanced. SPANISH 400 level.

Academic Integrity: Jurors will disqualify any submission that does not comply with the Academic Integrity policies established by Washington State University. In the same manner, jurors will disqualify submissions with discriminatory or offensive content (based on race, sex, religion, social class, disability, age, gender, sexual orientation, natural origin, to mention some examples.)

Recognition and Awards:
• The winning story in each category (first place) will be published in the Art and Culture section of The Daily Evergreen in bilingual edition.
• The winners in each category (three places) will be honored at an official Virtual Award Ceremony.
• The winners in each category (three places) will receive a diploma, a SLCR T-shirt, and a representative gift of a Hispanic country or culture.

Deadline: All stories must be submitted and received by 11:59 pm on Monday, March 15, 2021

Contest results: Letters communicating the results will be e-mailed by April 15, 2021

Please, address your inquiries to Vilma Navarro-Daniels (navarrod@wsu.edu)