

# Teen summer writing contest 2025: Butterfly effect

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Calling all young authors! We're looking for teen writers going into grades 7 to 12 to create original short stories on the theme *butterfly effect*! Finalists will receive a gift card and have their submissions added to the library's permanent collection! This contest is organized by the teen advisory groups at NVCL and NVDPL.

Incorporate the theme *Butterfly Effect*. Be creative with the theme. Your story can involve cause and effect; little things having big impact; change and metamorphosis — or any ideas that this theme inspires! It is not necessary to include the phrase itself in your story.

Submission deadline: Sept. 8.

Submissions are now closed. Thank you to everyone who submitted their work!

The writers will be celebrated at an awards ceremony in mid-October. All participants will have the opportunity to read from their stories at the event. There will be an audience choice award awarded at the ceremony.

**Prizes will be awarded and include the following:**

- Overall winner: \$50 gift card
- First place: grades 7 – 9, \$25 gift card
- First place: grades 10 – 12, \$25 gift card
- Honourable mention: grades 7-9, \$15 gift card
- Honourable mention: grades 10-12, \$15 gift card
- Audience choice award (will be awarded to an author who reads from their submitted work at the awards ceremony): \$50 gift card

**Rules:**

- The contest is open to anyone going into grades 7 – 12 who lives or goes to school on the North Shore.
- Maximum 5,000 words.
- Your work must be submitted in .doc, .docx, .pdf, .rtf, or .txt format. Please use standard margins, 12-point font, and double-spacing.
- Do not title your story "Butterfly Effect" or "Writing Contest".
- Do not include your name or other identifying information on the document. This will be included on the submission form only.
- Only one entry per applicant will be considered. The submission should be an original short story written by you in 2025.

Entries will be read by a panel of local authors, teens on the organizing committee and librarians.

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Submissions will be judged on the following elements: Incorporation of the theme, development of

plot and characters, structure, creativity, and mechanics (spelling, grammar, etc.).