

JON HASSLER FESTIVAL ESSAY WRITING CONTEST

PROMPT

Jon Hassler was a local author, and his first novel, *Staggerford*, presents his perspective on life here in central Minnesota. For this contest, please analyze a theme in *Staggerford* and trace that theme's development throughout the course of the novel. Provide examples (quotes) from the novel that support your analysis.

JUDGING

The process involves a blind evaluation where the names and school association are removed after submission. Judges will look for writing that is clear, articulate and logically organized.

RULES

1. Contest is open to high school seniors from the following counties: Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Todd, & Wadena.
2. Strong submissions will include an original thesis, ample evidence, and be written in accordance with the Modern Language Association (MLA) format. Include a Works Cited page.
3. Submissions should range from 750 – 1,500 words and be in Standard English.
4. Essays must be solely the work of the entrant although instructors may review and comment on student work before it is submitted. Plagiarism will result in disqualification.
5. Essays must include a cover sheet stapled to the essay for submission. The cover sheet needs to have the following information:
 - a. Entrant's name
 - b. Entrant's mailing address
 - c. Entrant's school
 - d. Name of Instructor who assigned the essay or reviewed essay before submission. If no instructor was associated then please note this as "Instructor NA"
6. One entry per student.
7. Essays must be mailed to the following address and **postmarked no later than February 27, 2015**:

Hassler Festival Essay Contest
Attn: Kari Frisch
Central Lakes College
501 West College Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401
8. All entries become the property of the Hassler Festival Outreach Program and will not be returned.
9. Students participating in the contest agree to have their essays published on the Hassler Festival website (hasslerfest.weebly.com) if they are chosen as one of the winning essays.
10. Winners and students receiving honorable mentions will be notified on or around May 4, 2015.
11. Students chosen as one of the winners will also receive complimentary registration to the Jon Hassler Festival being held at CLC on June 14-15. This registration is to be used by the winning student only and is non-transferable nor can it be redeemed for cash value. It is for complimentary registration to this Festival only.
12. The decisions of the judges are final.