

# SCARE THE DICKENS OUT OF US!

## SHORT STORY CONTEST RULES

*The "Scare the Dickens Out of Us" Ghost Story Contest is in conjunction with the annual "A Dickens Christmas In Lockhart" festival, which is held on the first weekend in December (Friday night, Saturday) in Lockhart, Texas.*

We want ghost stories. Here are the contest rules:

1. The contest is open to published and unpublished writers alike. All publication rights remain with the author. Contest judges and their immediate families are ineligible.
2. The ghost story must include a character from any of Charles Dickens' works as part of your original story.
3. The story must be set in the month of December and around any of the December holidays.
4. The story must be 4,000 words or less, in English, typed double-spaced.
5. Entries must be original and unpublished. Only one entry per writer.
6. With your manuscript you must submit a completed contest entry form and \$20 entry fee (check or money order). Download entry form [here](#).
7. You must mail your manuscript, completed contest entry form, and \$20 entry fee to us at this address: Ghost Story Contest, co/Friends of the Library, P.O. Box 821, Lockhart, TX 78644.
8. Contest deadline is October 1, 2009. Your entry must be postmarked no later than October 1, 2009.

Make your check or money order payable to Friends of the Dr. Eugene Clark Library. Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) if you want your manuscript returned to you.

Decisions of the judges are final. Judging will be in a blind format in which the judges do not know the names of the authors of the stories. For that reason, please do not place your name or other identifying marks anywhere on the manuscript. The title page should list only the name of the story and approximate word count. Succeeding pages should contain only story text, page numbers, and a partial story title.

Winners will be contacted at contest end. Names of winners also will be announced at the "A Dickens Christmas in Lockhart" festival in December, and will be posted at our web site [www.clarklibraryfriends.org](http://www.clarklibraryfriends.org).