

Entry Guidelines FWA Collection #4—My Wheels

My Wheels is the title and theme for the 2012 *FWA Collection #4—My Wheels* of sixty short pieces, written by FWA members, submitted electronically, published by FWA, and marketed across the nation through national booksellers as well as on our own website.

The Collection is published annually; each year presents a new theme and Person of Renown. This year's Person of Renown is Julie Compton.

My Wheels is a story about solid objects or concepts. Every submission must be connected in some way with wheels. Any kind of wheels—think about it—Ferris wheels, wheels on vehicles, airplanes, grocery carts, skates, home decorations, landscaping. Or it can be connected with concepts. Was there a time when you felt like a “fifth-wheel”?

Virtually all stories are eligible. This is a blind judging, and no one knows the author until the sixty winners are announced. Readers love variety and look for fiction or nonfiction subject matter with a wide interpretation. Stories may be funny, quirky, dramatic, tragic, disturbing, or heart-warming.

FWA's judges will select their sixty favorites from the electronic submissions received between February 1 and midnight May 15, 2012. Judges score each story independently. Each judge submits his/her scores to the selection coordinator who computes the total. The top sixty scoring stories will be published.

The top 10: From the sixty winning entries, Julie Compton (author of *Rescuing Olivia & Tell No Lies*) will name her ten favorite. Julie's selected ten will be published in order, and the remaining fifty will follow alphabetically by author's last name. Once selected the top 10 will be posted on FWA's website www.floridawriters.net, in FWA's e-Newsletter, published in *The Florida Writer*, and each top ten winner will receive an email notification.

Submission Guidelines & Requirements

1. Electronic submissions for the fourth *Collection* will be accepted from February 1, 2012, through midnight May 15, 2012. The submission email address will be provided in FWA's *E-Newsletter*, *The Florida Writer*, and on online at our website, www.floridawriters.net. This contest is only open to FWA members with dues paid through the end of October, 2012. Submissions will not be accepted from FWA members whose membership expires before that time. If any FWA member whose membership expires before October, 2012 submits a story, their membership must be mailed in at the time of submitting their story.
2. Stories must not have been published previously and must be the original work of the submitting author.
3. Submit your best work. We encourage you to participate in one of FWA's Critique Groups to strengthen your submission and potentially increase your chances for selection. Use spell check!
4. There is no entry fee. While each FWA member may submit up to two stories, no more than one may be selected for publication. Maximum length of each entry is 1,200 words.

How to Format and Submit

1. Because this is an electronic submission, you need no cover letter. Submit the story within the body of the email. **NO** attachments.
2. **One story per email entry.** Submit your entry from your permanent email address. All communication with entrants and finalists will be via email only.
3. Stories are judged blind. For tracking purposes, though, type your name, as written on your FWA membership card, **only** in the subject line of your email (nowhere in your manuscript- this includes the signature block), along with your FWA membership ID, story title, and word count, (i.e., Joe Smith, FWA123456, Rescuing Olivia, 899 words). Your membership number can be obtained by emailing Elaine Senecal, FWA's secretary at esenecal@cfl.rr.com or by asking your Writers Group Leader to check the most current copy of FWA's confidential membership list for you.
4. Formatting and Word Count: Single space the story using **Times New Roman 12** or **Arial 12** font. Story title should appear at the top of the story, the word count below the title. The title is not to be included in your word count. Contest stories must not exceed 1,200 words. Do not write with the goal of reaching 1,200 words. Short is good and sometimes better. No headers or footers, no page numbers, and **no author name anywhere in the manuscript.**
5. All submissions will receive an email reply acknowledging receipt. If you don't receive this notice within forty-eight (48) hours, please resubmit your entry.
6. For each story submitted, authors must submit a second email with up to a 50 word bio, picture (300 dpi attached), and website address if desired. The subject line of the email should state the author's name, as listed in the FWA membership, their FWA membership ID, story title and the words "bio/photo/web" (i.e. Joe Smith, FWA123456, Rescuing Olivia, bio/photo/web).
7. FWA members are responsible for following these guidelines. Entries that exceed the maximum word limit, are submitted as attachments, or include author information anywhere in the manuscript, will not be considered. They will be deleted. Do **not** include a signature block anywhere in the email.

If Your Work Makes the Top Sixty Stories

1. FWA has first-time publishing rights in North America only, including reprints of the entire book, as determined by sales, and the author retains the copyright to his/her work.
2. All authors receive an e-mail to let them know whether or not their submission is selected as one of the final sixty. Authors whose stories are selected will be required to sign a legal release for printing rights, as outlined above, to be assigned to Florida Writers Association.
3. The authors will mail an SASE and two copies of the signed legal release to the identified coordinator who will sign and return one copy to the authors. The 2nd copy will remain on file with FWA.
4. All submissions are contributed to FWA for publication in exchange for author recognition.
5. FWA retains republishing rights for the entire *Collection*, including electronically, while authors retain the right to republish their short stories individually, if they so desire.
6. FWA does not retain any rights to unselected works without written author approval.
7. Books will be sold through FWA's website, at the Conference Bookstore, and through national outlets such as Barnes & Noble, Amazon, etc.

The FWA *Collection* offers you, our member, a great opportunity to have your work published. And it's a super way to support Florida Writers Association.