

NJAA CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST

The National Junior Angus Association and the Events and Junior Activities Department of the American Angus Association will co-sponsor a writing contest. The writing contest exists to encourage the enhancement of written communication skills and to allow junior Angus members another chance to compete prior to the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). However, the entries will be displayed at the NJAS.

Prizes will be presented to the top three contestants in each age division (1st, 2nd and 3rd place). Winners will be announced at the NJAS and if space permits, winning entries will be published in the *Angus Journal*.

NJAA CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST RULES

1. Entries should be informative, conversational and factual, but not be research papers. Imagine you are a reporter covering an Angus hot topic or news. The writer should create an entry that would be suitable for printing in the *Angus Journal* or a state Angus publication.
2. This contest is available to the following age divisions, as of Jan. 1 of the current year: Junior (8-13), Intermediate (14-17) and Senior (18-20).
3. Submitted entries need to have the word count calculated on their cover sheet. Entries should also meet the following criteria:
 - a.) Junior entries should be between 300-500 words. Junior entries can either be typed, double-spaced and in 12-point type or be printed in ink, double-spaced.

Junior Topic: Write a story about the first time you met your favorite Angus animal.

- b.) Intermediate entries should be 600-800 words, typed, double-spaced, and in 12-point type.

Intermediate Topic: You are George Grant, writing a letter to a friend in Scotland, reflecting on the past year you have spent here in the U.S. after bringing the first Angus bulls to America.

- c.) Senior entries should be 1,000 – 1,200 words, typed, double-spaced, and in 12-point type.

Senior Topic: Be innovative! If you have use of unlimited resources or technology, what product would you invent to “revolutionize” the cattle industry on the farm, local or national level.

4. A cover page should include the junior member’s name, address, phone number, birth date and member code. No mention of the contestant’s name should be on any of the other pages.
5. All pages should be numbered.
6. It is the discretion of the NJAA Board to assign topics.
7. **Entries must be submitted by May 25 through AAA Login Online Contest Portal. Late entries will not be accepted.**
8. Judges will evaluate the written works as directed by a 50 point score sheet. Entries will be scored on grammar, spelling, organization and content. Creativity, accuracy, and readability all matter. Points will be deducted on entries that are either too short or too long. Each judge shall total their score and rank the contestants in numerical order on the basis of their score. (Highest score first, lowest score last.)

The rankings (not the score) of the three judges shall be added for each entry, and the final placing determined by the lowest composite rankings. Actual scores will be used only to break ties. In the event the participants are still tied, they shall be named co-winners and two awards will be given for that placing and none given for the following placing.