

RABBI BULKA LITERARY CONTEST GUIDE

Participants are challenged to exercise their creative writing skills to **write an essay and/or poem on the theme of Remembrance.**

Winning entries at the Legion Branch level move forward to the Legion's Provincial level contests. Finalists are then forwarded to the Legion National Foundation in Ottawa to be judged at the national level.

The First-Place Senior entries are displayed at the Canadian War Museum from November to October of the following year.

RULES

- 1** This contest is open to all students in grades 4 through 12 (Quebec: grade 4 through secondary 5) in the Canadian school system.
2 Students who have been out of the educational system for more than two consecutive years are ineligible to compete in the Rabbi Bulka Literary Contest at any level.
3 All entries are to be physically submitted to the local Legion Branch. Please contact the Legion Branch nearest you for their specific deadline date for entries: legion.ca/contact-us/find-a-branch.
4 Participants must complete and include an official registration form with their entry. (No staples.) This form is available through your local Legion Branch or online: RemembranceContests.ca.
5 Participants 17 years of age or younger must confirm parental permission via their official registration form.
6 Entries may be submitted in either English or French.
7 Both printed and handwritten submissions must be single sided.
- 8** Entries must not exceed the word or line limit as outlined on the entry form.
SENIOR LEVEL Participants will submit an essay of not more than 800 words or a poem of not more than 32 lines.
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL Participants will submit an essay of not more than 500 words or a poem of not more than 32 lines.
JUNIOR LEVEL Participants will submit an essay of not more than 350 words or a poem of not more than 32 lines.
- 9** A participant may submit both an essay and a poem, but only one entry per category.
- 10** All submissions must be the participant's original work. Submissions that appear to be computer generated, rendered by AI or machine will not be accepted.
- 11** The copying or reproducing of previously published works in whole or in part, without either the written permission from the author/source, or without identifying the author/source in the work, will result in the work being automatically disqualified.
- 12** The work should reflect Remembrance with a Canadian theme. If symbols are used, Canadian symbols shall be pre-eminent. Such national symbols are war memorials, Canadian and provincial flags, coats of arms, and representative flowers, birds, or animals, as well as all forms of Canadian historical and current military dress.

WHO IS RABBI BULKA?

Renowned for his dedication to the men and women who served Canada, Rabbi Reuven Bulka was often referred to as 'Canada's Rabbi'. For years, he shared emotional and poignant words during Remembrance Day Ceremonies and worked to make an impact in the lives of Canadian veterans.

JUDGING CRITERIA

CONTENT & CLARITY

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Does the work adhere to the theme of Remembrance? Does it convey a clear message, or emotion relevant to the theme? Is it cohesive? Does it maintain focus from start to finish?

CREATIVITY & ORIGINALITY

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Does the work grab and sustain interest? Is it thoughtful, moving, inspiring and/or impactful? Does the content of the work feel fresh & original, or is it presented in an original way? Does it reflect an interesting point of view or experience? Does the author successfully employ any literary devices (i.e., analogy, allegory, metaphor etc.) or poetic devices. (i.e. rhythm, form, metaphor, symbolism etc.) Does the work appear to be original, produced by the submitting party, for the intention of the contest?

PRODUCTION & QUALITY

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What is the overall quality of the work and level of polish? Does the work read clearly, thoughtfully, and appropriately paced? Are the necessary rules of syntax & punctuation observed? Is it free of spelling and formatting errors or typos? Does it adhere to the word or line limit?

PRIZES

All prizes will be awarded on the recommendation of the judges, whose decision will be final. On notification of having been selected as a winner at the Legion National Foundation level, the student agrees to the full and exclusive non-profit use of their work by the Legion National Foundation and The Royal Canadian Legion for the period of one year, after which all rights for usage revert to the student.

SENIOR LEVEL | GRADES 10, 11, 12 (QUEBEC: SECONDARY 4, 5)

1ST PRIZE	\$1000	2ND PRIZE	\$500	3RD PRIZE	\$250
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The Senior First-Place winner is additionally invited to Ottawa on an all-expense paid trip by the Legion National Foundation to represent Canada's youth at the National Remembrance Day Ceremony. The winner must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL | GRADES 7, 8, 9 (QUEBEC: SECONDARY 1, 2, 3)

1ST PRIZE	\$500	2ND PRIZE	\$250	3RD PRIZE	\$150
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JUNIOR LEVEL | GRADES 4, 5, 6

1ST PRIZE	\$250	2ND PRIZE	\$200	3RD PRIZE	\$125
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All First-Place winners are awarded a cash prize and a personalized plaque. Their educational institution also receives a plaque. Second and Third Place winners are awarded a cash prize and a certificate.