**2022 HISTORIC IRVINGTON HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL**

**WRITING CONTEST RULES & INFORMATION**

Contestants are encouraged to submit a short story with a Halloween theme. There is a limit of one entry per contestant. The contest is open to Irvington and surrounding neighborhood residents of all ages. Winners will be honored at the Night out on Sleepy Hollow event, Thursday, October 27th. Winning stories will be shared on the Irvington Halloween Festival Website.

**General Contest Rules & Guidelines**

* Submission deadline is **Friday, October 14th, 2022.** Late entries will not be considered
* Limit of one entry per contestant
* This is a local contest - only submissions from residents living in the Irvington neighborhood or a neighborhood nearby (Indianapolis, IN) will be considered
* The story must be appropriate for general audiences. Any entry deemed inappropriate or that fails to meet the contest rules outlined may be disqualified at the discretion of the contest coordinator or judges
* Entries cannot have been previously published
* Entries must be drafted in a fully editable file format (Microsoft Word, Google Doc) and sent as an attachment - do not share your story text in the body of an email and remember to name your file to identify it as your story (your name, the title, etc.)
* Your story attachment must include **ALL** of the following information at the top of page one or in the header of the document

o Story Title

o Author’s First and Last Name

o Author’s grade in school or indicate ‘Adult’ if not applicable

o Name of School if currently attending

o Author’s Home Address

o Author’s Phone Number (or parent’s)

o Author’s Email Address (or parent’s)

*\*Your address, phone and email address will NOT be shared and are only for the contest coordinator*

* Email your story to **irvspookystory@gmail.com**
* Winners will be notified on or before Monday, October 24th, 2022.

**Judges will select the best short stories based on scariness, theme, originality, entertainment value, grammar and overall writing quality. A winner will be selected within each of four age groups; *Adult, High School, Middle School and Elementary School*.**

A **short story** can be a personal narrative, memoir, true story or any kind of fiction story. We will consider stories that are between 800 and 10,000 words in length; please do not send anything longer or shorter for this particular contest. Judging will emphasize writing quality rather than length. Contestants may include illustrations to enhance the storytelling. Works must be submitted in an editable format. Any illustrations must be submitted in a separate file that is attached to the email. For more information about Historic Irvington Halloween contests and events, visit[www.irvingtonhalloween.com](http://www.irvingtonhalloween.com).

GOOD LUCK!