



## The 2023 Will McDonough Writing Contest Guidelines

**Students can create a fiction or non-fiction essay on sports or choose from one of the following topics:**

**1. Great Moments in Sports**

Write a narrative essay (fiction or non-fiction) about watching or playing in a great Boston sports moment.

**2. Game Changers**

Write an essay on who you think is the most influential person in sports. This can be a person who changed athletics, the community, or culture. Provide evidence to support your opinion.

**3. Think Positive**

Write an essay on a positive sports experience that has happened to you and how this experience influenced you outside of sports.

**4. Sports in Society**

There have been many occasions when sports and social issues have intersected. Write an essay on one such occasion and discuss its relevancy.

### **Judging Criteria**

Entries will be judged on how well they express and support ideas, opinions, and claims. Essays will also be judged on creativity, writing style, and how well they hold the readers' attention. Students may use primary and secondary sources in their essay. Please include a bibliography and documentation if needed.

### **Maximum Length of Essays**

Grades 4-5	400 Words	Grades 9-10	600 Words
Grades 6-8	500 Words	Grades 11-12	700 Words

NOTE: Bibliographies and essay titles do not count toward word totals.

**All entries must be submitted online or postmarked on or before March 6, 2023.**

Winning essays will be featured in the Will McDonough Exhibit in The Sports Museum, located within the TD Garden. First-place winners will receive a Kindle and be invited to participate in an award ceremony with Boston Globe writers and editors, members of the McDonough family and other special guests.

Winners will be announced via The Sports Museum's website ([www.sportsmuseum.org](http://www.sportsmuseum.org)) on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

**The 2023 Will McDonough  
Writing Contest  
Presented by**



**Entry Form**

Each participant must attach this form to his/her essay. Entries with incomplete forms will not be accepted.

- Entries must be submitted online (*www.sportsmuseum.org*) or mailed by **March 6, 2023**.
- The decisions of the judges are final.
- Essays become the property of The Sports Museum.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Essay: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Caregiver Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Caregiver Release**

I/We understand that The Sports Museum may use the essay, in its original or adapted form, for publicity or commercially distributed publications for no additional compensation and may use the entrant's name and/or likeness. We hereby grant such uses.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Caregiver

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please submit entries to the following address:

**Will McDonough Writing Contest  
The Sports Museum/TD Garden  
100 Legends Way  
Boston, MA 02114**