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Press release

For immediate release

ACLC announces 40th Annual Robinson-Lineberger Literary Competition

The Arts Council of Lincoln County is holding its annual Robinson-Lineberger Literary Competition. The trustees of Mrs. Flo Robinson's estate established this competition to memorialize her lifelong interest in poetry and prose and to encourage writers to pursue excellence in their craft. The Robert Lineberger estate has added its support to ensure that this tradition continues to give a voice to so many members of the Lincoln County community.

Poetry Entries: one per person, on any subject, in any style, free verse, blank verse, or rhymed should be limited to 32 lines or less.

Prose Entries: one per person, an essay or short story on any subject, limited to approximately 750 words.

Entries in prose and poetry must be titled, original, unpublished, and must never have won a cash award before.

The competition is open to students in public schools, private schools, and to adults. All entrants must be present or past residents of Lincoln County. Each school is asked to screen its entries and must submit only the best works. Student entries must come through the school and not be delivered individually to the Lincoln County Schools central office or the Arts Council of Lincoln County. Awards: Prize money will be divided between prose and poetry in the following categories:

Elementary Schools	grades 3 – 5	1st prize: \$30	2nd prize: \$20	3rd prize: \$15
Middle Schools	grades 6 – 8	1st prize: \$50	2nd prize: \$35	3rd prize: \$25
High Schools	grades 9 – 12	1st prize: \$75	2nd prize: \$50	3rd prize: \$30
Adults	18 and over	1st prize: \$100	2nd prize: \$75	3rd prize: \$50

Entry Rules: Submit **two** typewritten, double spaced copies of your entry. One copy must include the following **information in the upper right-hand corner:** full name (age, if a student), address, telephone number, category (prose or poetry), age group (grades 3-5, 6-8, 9-12; or adult), email address, and school (if applicable). The second copy should include only the poem, essay, or story, with no identification.

Student entries must be submitted through a participating school. *Late entries will not be accepted.* All entries must be **postmarked by March 25, 2024**, and be mailed to: the Arts Council of Lincoln County Literary Competition, 403 E. Main Street, Lincolnton, North Carolina 28092.

An awards ceremony will be held at the Lincoln Cultural Center on **April 11, 2024 at 7pm**, 403 E. Main Street, Lincolnton.

For more information contact the Arts Council at 704.2408466.

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