



## Contest Rules and Awards

### I. Contest Rules

The contest is open to all students in grades K–8. Winners will be selected from schools that use the **Zaner-Bloser Handwriting** program and **Superkids Reading Program**. Participating schools should select and submit **ONLY ONE WINNER PER GRADE PER SCHOOL** for grades K–8. Entries should be sent to **Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest**, PO Box 16764, Columbus, OH 43216-6764. Entries postmarked after **January 23, 2017 (National Handwriting Day)** will not be judged. Decisions by contest judges are final. Names, grade levels, and schools of winners may be posted on the Zaner-Bloser website and may be released to the media.

Contest void where prohibited by law. All contest entrants and Grand Champions must be residents of one of the fifty (50) United States or the District of Columbia. Employees and the immediate family members of employees of Zaner-Bloser, Inc., or its affiliates are not eligible to submit an entry, compete, or win.

### 2. How to Submit a Winning Entry

Impress upon your students the importance of legible handwriting. Give a copy of the appropriate form to each student who wishes to enter: Manuscript, grades K–2; Cursive, grades 3–4; Cursive, grades 5–8. Allow students time to practice before writing their final entry on a clean form. Remember: Handwriting should be relaxed and natural, not traced—neatness counts. Reward each student who enters the contest with a copy of the Zaner-Bloser Certificate of Participation. Submit **ONE** winning entry for each grade level to represent your school along with the completed School Information Form. A School Information Form must accompany all entries. Mail the winning entries to **Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest**, PO Box 16764, Columbus, OH 43216-6764 by January 23, 2017.

### 3. Judging and Awards

All entries will be judged according to the **Zaner-Bloser Keys to Legibility—Size, Shape, Spacing, and Slant**—which can be found on the reverse side of each entry form. Every student whose entry is submitted to the judges will receive a School Grade-Level Winner Certificate. All public and private schools with a winner will be notified by April 28, 2017, so that presentation assemblies can be scheduled and all prizes can be awarded.

**State Grade-Level Winners**—Judges will select a Public and Private State Grade-Level (K–8) Winner for each state. There could be 18 State Grade-Level Winners for each state, one from each grade in both public and private school categories. Zaner-Bloser reserves the right not to choose a State Grade-Level Winner if the entries do not meet the legibility criteria. State Grade-Level Winners will receive a prize package for themselves and their school.

**National Grade-Level Semifinalists**—Judges will select Public and Private National Grade-Level Semifinalists from the State Winners. There could be 18 Semifinalists, one from each grade (K–8) in both school categories. Zaner-Bloser reserves the right not to choose a Semifinalist if the entries do not meet the legibility criteria. National Grade-Level Semifinalists will receive a prize package for themselves and their school.

**Grand National Grade-Level Champions**—Judges will select nine Grand National Grade-Level (K–8) Champions from the 18 Public and Private Grade-Level Semifinalists. Zaner-Bloser reserves the right not to choose a Grand National Grade-Level Champion if the entries do not meet the legibility criteria. Each Grand National Grade-Level Champion will be awarded a **\$500 cash prize and a large trophy**. Each teacher of a Grand National Grade-Level Champion will be awarded **a trip to the 2017 International Literacy Association Conference in Orlando, Florida**. Each school of a Grand National Grade-Level Champion will receive educational materials valued at **\$1,000**.