



CARLOS PALANCA MEMORIAL AWARDS FOR LITERATURE



RULES OF THE CONTEST – 2025

1. The contest is open from **20 May to 30 June 2025** to all Filipino citizens, or former Filipino citizens, of all ages except current directors, officers, and employees of the Carlos Palanca Foundation, Inc. (the Sponsor).
2. The contest has the following divisions and categories open for submission for this year's Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature (CPMA):

ENGLISH DIVISION	FILIPINO DIVISION	REGIONAL LANGUAGES	KABATAAN DIVISION
Short Story	Maikling Kuwento	Short Story – Cebuano	Kabataan Essay
Short Story for Children	Maikling Kuwentong Pambata	Short Story – Hiligaynon	Kabataan Sanaysay
Essay	Sanaysay	Short Story – Ilokano	
Poetry	Tula		
Poetry Written for Children	Tula Para Sa Mga Bata		
One-act Play	Dulang May Isang Yugto		
Full-length Play	Dulang Ganap ang Habang		
	Dulang Pampelikula		

3. In the **SHORT STORY/MAIKLING KUWENTO (ENGLISH OR FILIPINO OR CEBUANO OR HILIGAYNON OR ILOKANO)** categories, an entry must be at least ten (10) but not more than twenty-five (25) typewritten pages and must include a one-page synopsis. The theme is open and free.
4. In the **SHORT STORY FOR CHILDREN/MAIKLING KUWENTONG PAMBATA** categories, an entry must be not more than ten (10) typewritten pages and must include a one-page synopsis. It may deal with any subject, and be within the grade-school reading level of children ages 7-12.
5. In the **ESSAY/SANAYSAY** categories, an entry should be at least ten (10) but not more than twenty-five (25) typewritten pages. The category is open only to informal (personal) essays.
6. In the **POETRY/TULA** categories, an entry must *consist of a collection* of at least ten (10) but not more than fifteen (15) poems.
7. In the **POETRY WRITTEN FOR CHILDREN/TULA PARA SA MGA BATA** categories, an entry must *consist of a collection* of at least ten (10) but not more than fifteen (15) poems. It may deal with any subject and must be comprehensible within the grade-school reading level of children ages 7-12, and can be appreciated in its oral form by younger children.
8. In the **ONE-ACT PLAY/DULANG MAY ISANG YUGTO** categories, an entry must be of sufficient length to approximate a performance time of forty-five (45) minutes and must include a one-page synopsis. The theme is open and free.
9. In the **FULL-LENGTH PLAY/DULANG GANAP ANG HABA** categories, an entry must consist of two (2) or more acts and must include a one-page synopsis.
10. In the **DULANG PAMPELIKULA** category, the entry must be a script for a full-length film with a running time of approximately two (2) hours and must include a one-page synopsis. The theme is open and free.
11. The **KABATAAN ESSAY/KABATAAN SANAYSAY** are special youth categories open to persons below 18 years of age as of 30 June 2025. It is open only to informal (personal) essays. The theme for 2025 KABATAAN ESSAY is: “AI is rapidly transforming daily life, revolutionizing how we learn, analyze information, and solve problems. How can I effectively use AI to enhance learning while maintaining personal responsibility, independent thought, and ethical integrity?” and “Mabilis na binabago ng AI ang pang-araw-araw na buhay, binabago ang paraan ng ating pag-aaral, pagsusuri ng impormasyon, at paglutas ng mga suliranin. Paano ko epektibong magagamit ang AI upang mas mapahusay ang pag-aaral habang pinapanatili ang personal na responsibilidad, malayang pag-iisip, at integridad sa etika?” for KABATAAN SANAYSAY. An entry must be at least four (4) but not more than five (5) typewritten pages.
12. There are two special awards for contestants who have garnered multiple first prizes. The **HALL OF FAME AWARD** is bestowed on Palanca awardees who have won a first prize at least *five (5) times* in the regular categories. The five (5) first prizes may be from different divisions and/or categories for purposes of qualifying for the Hall of Fame Award. The **KABATAAN AWARD OF DISTINCTION** is awarded to Palanca awardees who have won four (4) first prizes in the KABATAAN ESSAY/KABATAAN SANAYSAY categories, regardless of division. First prize awards in the Kabataan Essay/Kabataan Sanaysay categories shall not be counted for purposes of the Hall of Fame Award.

13. a. **Authors may submit only one (1) entry per category.**
b. **An entry or excerpt thereof, may only be submitted in one (1) category and may not be entered in any other category.**
c. **A translation of an entry submitted in one (1) division shall not be eligible in any other division.**

14. A work which has been awarded a prize in another contest before 12:00 m.n. of 30 June 2025 is not qualified for the awards.

15. Published/produced works which were first published or first produced between 1 June 2024 to 30 June 2025 and/or unpublished/unproduced works, may be entered in the contest. While, only unproduced works may be entered in the DULANG PAMPELIKULA category.

16. **ALL ENTRIES must be in a PDF File, double – spaced** (not applicable on Poetry/Tula/Poetry for Children/Tula Para Sa Mga Bata categories), on **8 ½ X 11 inches bond paper**. There should be a one-inch margin on all sides. The page number should be typed consecutively at the center of the bottom margin of each page. The font should be Arial, Times New Roman, or Book Antiqua. The font size should be 12. A **SYNOPSIS** after the Title Page is also required except for the Poetry, Poetry Written for Children and Essay category, English and Filipino divisions. **THE AUTHOR'S NAME AND/OR PEN NAME SHOULD NOT APPEAR ON THE ENTRY.**

The **OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM FOR ENTRIES FROM THE PHILIPPINES** should be **NOTARIZED**.

Entries from abroad need NOT be notarized at the time of submission and should use the entry form with title **OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM FOR ENTRIES FROM ABROAD**. If an entry wins, this Entry Form and Consent Form (adaptations) must be authenticated by the Philippine Embassy or Consulate or properly apostilled and should be received by the CPMA Office on or before **30 October** (Philippine time) of the contest year in order to qualify to receive an Award.

17. SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES FOR ALL CATEGORIES:

Participants will submit their entries through **ONLINE SUBMISSION ONLY** (thru official CPMA Website @ www.palancaawards.com.ph)

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Notarized Official Entry Form (for entries from the Philippines)
2. Unnotarized Official Entry Form (for entries from Abroad)
3. Notarized Consent Form for Derivative Works (for adaptations only – if your entry is an original work, there is no need to submit this form).

NOTE: Google forms, by default, automatically add your name to the filename. Your entry will NOT be disqualified. We will edit the filename before your entry is distributed to the judges.

18. In submitting an entry, a contestant represents and warrants that the work is his own and that he has absolute ownership of all intellectual property rights thereto. If the entry is an adaptation of another author's work, the contestant shall submit the written consent of the author of the existing work, allowing the contestant to adapt the work and enter the adaptation in the contest [**Consent Form (adapted work/s)**]. The Consent Form shall include a clear and categorical statement that the Sponsor shall be exempt from any and all liability in the event that the adaptation is alleged to infringe the intellectual property rights of the author of the existing work.

19. Entries submitted must comply with government policies on ONLINE matters. Online copies of winning entries shall remain with, and become the property of the Carlos Palanca Foundation, Inc.

20. In submitting an entry, the author and parent/guardian (if applicable) (the "**Contestant**") accept the rules of the contest (the **Rules**) and grant and assign to the Sponsor **the concurrent and non-exclusive right to exercise the copyright and other intellectual property rights granted to the author and the author's assignees, with respect to any winning work (the Work(s)). The grant and assignment also extend to all forms of storage, transmission, dissemination, and communication presently existing or subsequently created. The prize money which may be awarded to the Contestant for the Work(s) shall constitute full payment of the foregoing rights assigned to the Sponsor, and shall be in lieu of any royalties or other compensation to the Contestant.**

To promote Philippine Literature in the modern world of information technology, the Sponsor intends to make the winning entries accessible through the internet or other electronic media, to serve as a literary archive of the contest. The website or other media to be established for this purpose are intended to be a repository of the award-winning Works, recording the history of the development of Philippine literature over the years through the Palanca Awards. In making the Work(s) thus available to the public, the Sponsor intends purely to promote literary appreciation for and public awareness of such Work(s), and not to commercially exploit the same. Contestants must indicate in the Official Entry Form whether they agree to have their Work(s) posted in the CPMA website and made available for downloading by the public for free in the event that a prize is awarded for the entry; **in the absence of any indication in the entry form, it is presumed that the author has agreed to such inclusion of the Work**. To encourage use for educational purposes, winning Work(s) shall be posted on the website in their entirety. Should any winning author subsequently instruct the Sponsor in writing to include or remove the Work(s) from the Internet archive, such instruction will be honored and the Work(s) shall be included or removed from the Internet archive within a reasonable time from Sponsor's receipt of the author's written instruction. The exclusion of any winning Work or Works from the website shall not constitute a waiver of any of the Sponsor's Rights.

21. In connection with the grant, assignment, or transfer to the Sponsor of the rights stated in Rule 20, and pursuant to the requirements of R.A. No. 8293, entries must be accompanied by the author's written consent to abide by the rules of the contest acknowledged before a Notary Public. In case of minors, particularly with respect to the Kabataan Essay category, the written consent of the parents or legal guardians shall also be required. The Authorization Form and Official Entry Form are available through the CPMA website.

The exercise of the above rights by the Sponsor shall not be deemed a waiver of any right of action which the Sponsor of this contest may have against the contestant if it is discovered later on that said person is not the creator or owner of the copyright to the award-winning work or has otherwise violated any of these rules. Moreover, the contestant likewise undertakes to indemnify the Sponsor for any and all damages, fees, costs and expenses that the Sponsor may incur by reason of the infringement by the contestant of the intellectual property rights of another.

22. The prizes, in Philippine Pesos (Php), for each contest category are the following:

a. Short story/Maikling Kuwento/Regional Languages (Cebuano, Hiligaynon, Ilokano)

	ENGLISH	FILIPINO	CEBUANO	HILIGAYNON	ILOKANO
First prize	18,000.00	18,000.00	18,000.00	18,000.00	18,000.00
Second prize	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
Third prize	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00

b. Short Story for Children/Essay/Poetry/Poetry Written for Children/One-act Play
Maikling Kuwentong Pambata/Sanaysay/Tula/Tula Para Sa Mga Bata/Dulang May Isang Yugto

	ENGLISH	FILIPINO		
First prize	18,000.00	18,000.00		
Second prize	12,000.00	12,000.00		
Third prize	9,000.00	9,000.00		

c. Full-length Play/Dulang Ganap ang Haba

	ENGLISH	FILIPINO		
First prize	21,000.00	21,000.00		
Second prize	14,000.00	14,000.00		
Third prize	9,000.00	9,000.00		

d. Dulang Pampelikula

		FILIPINO		
First prize		35,000.00		
Second prize		20,000.00		
Third prize		17,000.00		

e. Kabataan Essay/Kabataan Sanaysay

	ENGLISH	FILIPINO		
First prize	11,000.00	11,000.00		
Second prize	7,000.00	7,000.00		
Third prize	4,000.00	4,000.00		

23. The Sponsor has the sole right to designate the persons who shall constitute the Board of Judges in each of the contest categories. The decision of the majority of the Board of Judges in all categories shall be final.

24. The Board of Judges shall declare only one winner for each prize. There shall be no co-winners and/or splitting of the prize money. The Board of Judges shall have the discretion not to award any prize if, in its judgment, no meritorious entry has been submitted.

25. The names of the winners and the members of the Board of Judges shall be announced on the month of November 2025.

26. ALL PARTIES SUBMITTING ENTRIES ARE DEEMED TO HAVE ACCEPTED THE RULES OF THE CONTEST, AND AGREE TO ABIDE THEREBY.

ALL ENTRIES MUST STRICTLY COMPLY WITH THESE RULES.

ALL DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS MUST BE COMPLETE AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION.