



## 2009 MSLA Bookmark Contest FAQs

### Who can enter the contest?

Any school librarian who is a current member of MSLA can enter.

### What if I am a district supervisor with many schools?

A supervising department chair who supervises non-member schools may submit a maximum of three entries per division **for the schools s/he supervises**. (For example, an MSLA district library director of three elementary schools may submit only three division entries for all three schools, not nine.)

**Non-member libraries are not eligible to participate in the contest.**

### What if I am not a member of MSLA?

You can easily obtain membership at [www.maschoolibraries.org](http://www.maschoolibraries.org) before entering the contest.

### How do I run the contest at my school?

You have the choice of doing it a number of ways: working with classroom or art teachers, having students work on it during library time or free time, celebrate literacy events such as Children's Book Week or Banned Book Week. Promote this school-wide contest and offer prizes and publicity.

### When do I send in the contest entries?

You may send the entries to Maria Mastrocola anytime **BEFORE** February 13, 2009:  
Maria Mastrocola, Methuen High School, One Ranger Road, Methuen, MA 01844.

### What information do I need to submit an entry?

The contest templates for photocopying are on the website at [www.maschoolibraries.org](http://www.maschoolibraries.org). Each entry needs the student's name, grade and contest division, school address, the member librarian's name and email address, and the name of your local newspaper. We also ask for parent signature for publicity purposes. Entries without parent's permission are disqualified.

**Previous winners recommend that you fill out as much of the entry with school information before photocopying. Download the Word document to type the information right on the entry form.**

### Will I be able to get my students' entries back?

The best advice would be to scan your entries into a file or to make color copies before you send them. If your students are winners at the state level, their bookmarks will be sent directly to the printer and then they will be laminated for display and archival purposes. If the entries are not selected, they can be returned to you by sending a large self-addressed stamped envelope with your entries.

### What do the students win?

Winning students receive:

- ✚ 500 bookmarks of their winning design
- ✚ an enlargement of their bookmark
- ✚ a gift certificate to a local book store
- ✚ a framed award certificate with our distinguished judges' autographs
- ✚ a commendation from their legislator
- ✚ an invitation to participate at the awards ceremony at MLA/MSLA Joint Legislation Day
- ✚ a tour of the State House on awards day.

Honorable Mention awardees receive:

- ✚ a personal set of 50 bookmarks of their winning design
- ✚ an enlargement of their bookmark
- ✚ a framed award certificate with our distinguished judges' autographs
- ✚ a commendation from their legislator
- ✚ an invitation to participate at the awards ceremony at MLA/MSLA Joint Legislation Day
- ✚ a tour of the State House on awards day.

### How do I obtain my school's prize?

The MSLA website will display the names of authors who have generously donated school prizes for the bookmark contest. Each librarian of winners and honorable mentions will receive signed copies of books from the judges who participated in the contest or who have supported MSLA in other events.

### How do schools publicize their school's winners?

Immediately following the judging, emails are sent to the school librarians who have winning or honorable mention bookmarks. **Make sure your email address is up to date on the MSLA Directory.** As soon as all have been contacted, MSLA sends out press releases to the newspapers listed on the entry form. It is the responsibility of the school librarian to provide more in-depth ceremonies, interviews, and news coverage. MSLA will gladly help out with information to encourage news events. **MSLA would like librarians to send any news articles about this event for display at the MSLA conference.**

### How can I help with next year's bookmark contest?

We are always looking for library teachers to help us with our bookmark contest. You can volunteer by completing the MSLA Volunteer Application at the MSLA conference.