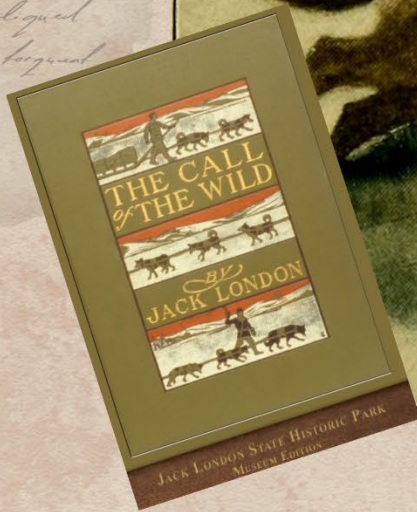


11th Annual Young Writers Contest!



**FAN FICTION
EDITION
2026**

For Middle
School Students
(only 6th-8th gr.)

Jack London 150th Birthday Special Prompt *Rewrite the Ending of Call of the Wild*

In honor of Jack London's 150th birthday, we invite young writers in middle school to step into his world and re-imagine one of the most iconic endings in American literature. In *Call of the Wild*, Buck's journey leads him deep into the wilderness – and toward a powerful transformation. This year, you become the storyteller!

★ **Your Challenge:** Write an original short story that continues Buck's journey in your own creative direction. Stay true to his spirit – brave, wild, intelligent – but feel free to imagine a new future for him.

You will pick up the story in the final pages and imagine what happens next. You might ask yourself:

- Does Buck make a different choice?
- Does a new danger or opportunity appear?
- Does he discover something about himself that changes his path?



SEE OTHER SIDE FOR CONTEST RULES AND REGULATIONS!



JACK LONDON PARK PARTNERS WRITING CONTEST RULES AND GUIDELINES

1. Contestants must write an original story for submission and may only submit one entry. **Stories will be filtered through AI detection tools and all AI generated stories will be disqualified immediately.**
2. Submissions must be in PDF format (no hard copies). You will email 2 PDFs to kellis@jacklondonpark.com
Please NO Google doc. links, as they can be unreliable.
 - PDF 1 (entry form) – Please label your completed entry form with, “2026 – your name – your story title” – If you cannot scan it, please email a **very clear** photograph of the entire form.
 - PDF 2 (short story) – Please label your story submission with your story title only. DO NOT add author’s name as the stories will be judged blindly.
3. Your submission must be typed, double-spaced, and:
 - a. We will accept a range of 1,500-2,000 words only.
 - b. **Submissions that contain more than 2,000 or less than 1,500 words will be disqualified.**
4. Submissions must be written in English.
5. Submissions will be judged on narrative style and creative use of language.
6. **Stories submitted without the completed entry form will not be considered.**

AWARDS FOR WINNING ENTRIES

1ST PLACE \$300

2ND PLACE \$200

3RD PLACE \$150

Deadline for submission is 11:59pm on March 31st, 2026. Late submissions will **not be considered.**

Jack London Park Partners Writing Contest Entry Form (please print legibly)

Author’s Name: _____

Address (for mailing prizes): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent/Guardian _____ email: _____

Grade level: _____ School: _____

School Address: _____

Title of submission: _____

Word Count (see above restrictions): _____

By signing below, you declare that the following statement is true:

I declare that this story is my own original work

Author’s signature: _____ date: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ date: _____

Email all questions and story submissions to Kristina Ellis; kellis@jacklondonpark.com