CENTER FOR THE BOOK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 14, 2022 Contact: Connie Armstrong, 405/522-3383 or connie.armstrong@libraries.ok.gov

My Favorite Book Student Writing Contest Announced

Deadline to enter is December 16, 2022

The Oklahoma Center for the Book in the Oklahoma Department of Libraries has announced the 2022-2023 My Favorite Book statewide writing competition for students in fourth through twelfth grades. Students attending public, private, and home schools are encouraged to participate in the competition, which requires them to write a letter to the author of a favorite book and explain how the book or one of the book's characters impacted their life. The competition began in October and the deadline for entries is December 16, 2022.

Cash prizes are awarded with first-place winners receiving \$500; second-place \$250; and third-place \$100. In addition, the first-place winners will select their school library or public library to receive a \$1,000 grant. An awards ceremony will be held in May 2023.

The My Favorite Book competition is sponsored by the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, the Friends of the Oklahoma Center for the Book, and the Kirkpatrick Foundation.

"The contest is designed to encourage young people to think critically about the books they read," according to Connie Armstrong, director of the Center. "The letter writing exercise also emphasizes formal and important ways to communicate in a world filled with texting and social media posts."

For more information about the My Favorite Book writing competition and other programs of the Center, visit <u>oklahoma.gov/libraries/my-fav-book</u>, or contact Connie Armstrong at 405/522-3383 or <u>connie.armstrong@libraries.ok.gov</u>.

The **Oklahoma Center for the Book (OCB)** in the Oklahoma Department of Libraries is a state affiliate of the **Center for the Book in the Library of Congress** and is organized to focus attention on the vital role of books and reading in our lives. The Center promotes the past, current, and future works of Oklahoma authors; promotes the literary heritage of the state; and encourages reading for pleasure by Oklahomans of all ages.