

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Acclaimed authors, educators and business owners join the judging panel of Ripple Foundation's nationwide creative writing contest



KIDS WRITE 4 KIDS

Meet our Judging Panel

CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST

For Grades 4-8
Deadline: 03/31/25

ripplefoundation.ca/contest

RIPPLE FOUNDATION

Toronto, ON (January 10, 2025): [Ripple Foundation](https://ripplefoundation.ca) – Canada's national youth education charity nurturing the next generation's creativity – has revealed the 12 people who will pick the winner of the 2025 Kids Write 4 Kids creative writing challenge.

The competition, open to those in grades four to eight, provides winners the opportunity to become a published author, with book sale proceeds donated to a charity of their choice. Aspiring authors must submit their original creative writing work by March 31, 2025.

Joining last year's winners, Alina Xiao and Myah Rathi Litteljohn, the judges this year include:

- **Jerry Levy:** Toronto-based author of the short story collections, *Urban Legend*, *The Quantum Theory of Love & Madness*, and *The Philosopher Stories*. He is a regular contributor of book reviews to The Ottawa Review of Books and has taught creative writing at The Life Institute.
- **Tony Weaver, Jr:** Award-winning writer, educator, and influencer with an audience of over half a million on TikTok. He founded Weird Enough, a social impact organization using graphic novels to promote self-awareness, social responsibility, and agency in students.
- **Nicki Paupreto:** Award-winning and internationally bestselling author living just outside of Toronto. Author of the *Crown of Feathers* trilogy, the *House of the Dead* duology, and *The Last Hope School for Magical Delinquents* series.
- **Anne Uebbing:** Owner of Kinder Books, an independent children's bookstore in New Westminster, BC.
- **Sarena and Sasha Nana:** Twin sisters and authors of the YA fantasy novels *Sisters of the Snake* and *Daughters of the Dawn*, and the forthcoming middle grade debut *Spirit Service*.

- **Jed Churcher:** Co-founder of Library Collective – a Los Angeles based advertising agency focused on telling real people’s stories - with a 25-year career in advertising in both the US and Canada.

Ivy Wong, Founder of Ripple Foundation said: *"I'm delighted that this incredible line-up of creative minds will be selecting the winner of Kids Write 4 Kids this year. This group of experts will read through the wealth of stories from the next generation of writing talent across Canada so it's a fantastic opportunity for any aspiring authors. With only a couple of months left to enter, we really encourage all young writers to put themselves forward for a chance to become published and make a difference to life-changing philanthropic causes."*

Alina and Myah donated their book sale proceeds to Childhood Cancer Canada.

Winners' works will be published in paperback and ebook editions and available on Amazon, Google Play, Apple iBookstore and Overdrive in summer 2025.

Full details on the judges can be found here: [Judging Panel - Ripple Foundation](#)

To learn more about Kids Write 4 Kids, please visit: ripplefoundation.ca/contest/

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Notes to editors

- 1. Media contact: Shiryn Sayani | shiryn@ripplefoundation.ca**
- 2. About Ripple Foundation**

Ripple Foundation is a 100% volunteer-run national educational charity. Ripple Foundation creates and delivers free community programs advocating creative literacy among children and youth. The benefits of creativity literacy include building confidence, boosting imagination, and promoting creative thinking and problem-solving. As a result, children and youth learn how to express themselves while expanding their reading and writing skills. Visit ripplefoundation.ca to learn more about our free programs for children and youth in grades 4-12.
- 3. About Kids Write 4 Kids (KW4K)**

The Kids Write 4 Kids program is an annual national creative writing challenge that encourages children and youth in grades 4-8 to submit original stories for a chance to become published authors. Each year, a panel of judges selects a story (or stories) submitted to the competition to be published both in print and digital format, available for the world to read. The KW4K program has been running since 2012 and is Ripple Foundation's signature program. View all titles at ripplefoundation.ca/books