



## ANNUAL UNDERGRADUATE WRITING COMPETITION

The Virginia Outdoor Writers Association, Inc. (VOWA) will sponsor an annual Undergraduate Level (college) Writing Contest again in 2007. The objective is to encourage young adults having outdoor backgrounds with wildlife- or natural history-related career or interest in wildlife or nature history to write about these interests.

The competition is open to any undergraduate student enrolled at a Virginia college or university, including two-year community colleges, public and private postsecondary institutions. The theme of the contest is how experiences in the outdoors have influenced his/her life. Each writer is to title his/her own entry.

The winner will be introduced at the association's annual meeting in Charlottesville Virginia, Wednesday, March 19, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. in the Training Room at the Virginia Department of Forestry in Charlottesville, Virginia. The winning entry will be published in the association's web site, the Virginia Wildlife magazine, and attempts will be made to get them in a number of weekly and daily newspapers around

Virginia.

A cash award of \$250 will be presented.

### **Contest Rules:**

1. Open to all full-time or part-time undergraduate-level college students.
2. Nonfiction only under the directed theme merging career choice and out-door experience.
3. Length: 800 to 1,000 words maximum; the submission must be typed double-spaced.
4. Supporting photos are not required; however, they are welcomed. Submitted photographs can be in print, duplicate transparency or digital printout. The intent is to publish the winning entry; when photographs are included it will be as a story/photo package.
5. Electronic submissions are encouraged in a Word or plain text attachment.
6. Send biographical contact information (name, address, what grade at what school) with day and night time telephone numbers. Please include an e-mail address.
7. Submissions not following the above contest rules will be disqualified.

### **8. Submission Deadline:**

Electronically dated e-mail or letter postmarked between now and no later

than **January 31, 2008.**

9. If there are too few quality entries the judges have the right to declare a "no contest."

10. Send submissions to:

Marika Byrd

Unit 2001

9354 Castle York Court

Glen Allen, VA 23060-

[byrdm@vcu.org](mailto:byrdm@vcu.org)

804/672-0684

VOWA encourages Student Membership; the fee is \$10 per year.