

CSG LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST 2026
FIFTEENTH ANNUAL “TELL ME YOUR FAMILY STORY”
ESSAY CONTEST

Sponsored by

CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033-0435

Library/Office Address: 175 Maple Street, East Hartford, CT

Telephone: 860-569-0002 / Email: csginc@csginc.org

\$100 Prize! Open to all!

Essays may include:

- Family stories
- Oral histories
- Genealogy-related blog entries
- Excerpts from an ancestor’s journal or diary
- Transcriptions of Bible records or cemetery markers
- Traditions and socio-economic background affecting an ancestor

Be sure to include how the story pertains to your family! We encourage writers to be creative when deciding on a topic. All submissions must be relevant to Connecticut or New England.

Contest Rules

1. The contest opens on February 1, 2026. Entries must be received in CSG’s office by June 15, 2026. Membership in CSG or Connecticut residency is NOT required to enter.
2. Essays must be no more than five single-spaced typewritten pages. Supporting documentation may be included but will not be counted toward the page limit.
3. Physical or digital entries are accepted. Physical entries require TWO copies of the essay and supporting documentation. Digital entries may be submitted in Microsoft Word. Submissions will not be returned. All entries will be permanently retained in the CSG Library.
4. A completed entry form must accompany all entries. Mail submissions to CSG at the mailing address on the entry form or email submissions to csginc@csginc.org. Entries may also be delivered in person to the CSG office. There is no fee to enter.
5. Winning entries may be included in a future issue of *Connecticut Genealogy News* or *The Connecticut Nutmegger*. Authors are asked to sign “Copyright and Ownership Conditions” on the entry form.
6. Entry is open to anyone except CSG staff, the current CSG Board of Governors, and their immediate families.

Essays will be evaluated on a variety of criteria. In addition to content, judges will consider the following aspects of the submission:

- Logical, readable, and interesting presentation
- Standard grammar, sentence structure, and spelling
- Relevant title
- Clear and consistent page numbers
- Easy-to-follow genealogical summaries when applicable
- Quality supporting documentation

Winning entries will be formally announced at CSG’s Annual Family History Seminar October 3, 2026.

Winners will be notified by August 1, 2026. See reverse for entry form.

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Entry Form

Please Print or Type _____ Date Submitted: _____

Title of Essay: _____

Written by: _____

Are you a CSG Member? Circle one: Yes / No _____ CSG Member Number: _____

Address: _____

Town/State/Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

How did you learn about this contest? _____

*Membership is not required to enter. For more information on becoming a CSG member, go to csginc.org.

Copyright and Ownership Conditions:

Selected essays may be published in *The Connecticut Nutmegger* or *Connecticut Genealogy News*. Authors agree by their submission to grant CSG perpetual non-exclusive right to edit and publish. This includes the right to publish on the Internet, store on electronic media, and to republish and/or extract for future CSG use. Authors retain the copyrights to their specific works and can republish or reuse their material without limitation.

Author Acceptance: I have read and accept the copyright and ownership conditions.

Signature _____ Date _____

We encourage you to photocopy this entry form and pass it on. See reverse for Essay Contest rules.