

## **Friends of the Norfolk Public Library 2023 Book Review Contest**

The Friends of the Norfolk Public Library are pleased to announce the 2023 Annual Book Review Contest, a Norfolk tradition promoting reading, writing, critical thinking, and library use.

### **Here's how it works:**

- Ask students to choose books they enjoy. Any genre is welcome.
- Students must examine and express their opinions about plot, setting, characters, themes, and style. Would they recommend the book? Why or why not?
- A review is not a retelling of the story.
- Judging is based on voice and creative writing. Students will compete on their own grade levels.
- Correct grammar and spelling count.

### **Contest rules**

- The contest is open to all Norfolk public, private, or homeschooled students in grades 4-12.
- The entry must be the student's own work.
- Only one entry per student is allowed.
- Entries must be 500 words or less, or they will be disqualified.
- The student's name and school SHOULD NOT appear on the review itself. Entries must remain anonymous.
- The deadline for submissions will be March 14th.
- Each school and library will receive a unique submission code, and instructions for coding and submitting reviews online. Codes and instructions will be issued by the end of February.

Public school teachers may submit their reviews to the English Department downtown in time for the March 14th deadline. If you have any questions, please contact [norfolkbookreview@gmail.com](mailto:norfolkbookreview@gmail.com). Fourth and fifth grade students who submit reviews will receive certificates of participation. Award winners will each receive a winner's certificate as well as a gift certificate to Prince Books.