



“VERDANT WONDERS” PROGRAM INFORMATION

To be eligible, entries *must*:

- be submitted in 12-pt Times New Roman font, double-spaced in a .docx file named “Initials Title Genre” (Example: SMP Nature Rules PE)
- include title and exclude author’s name on document,
- pertain to nature, culture and/or the environment,
- and be within genre, word and page limits,

Entries that will *not* be considered include:

- entries with explicit themes and concepts including but not limited to violence, drug use, sexual content and explicit profanity,
- plagiarized work or work generated using artificial intelligence,
- entries that exceed genre, word or page limits,
- submissions from authors outside Ohio,
- and work that does not pertain to nature, culture or the environment in some capacity.

To submit, email summitmetroparksnaturalist@gmail.com with all documents in **ONE** email (entries, submission agreement, written release form and if pertinent the previously published form), with subject line **Verdant Wonders Submission 2024, first name, last name**. Any submissions not following this format will be disqualified.

Please be aware that:

- previously published work is allowed only if copyrights were retained. Please disclose if and where the work was published,
- a signed agreement is required to be submitted upon entry (if you are under 18, a parent or legal guardian must sign for you),
- if you wish to withdraw your entry, email: summitmetroparksnaturalist@gmail.com with subject line “WITHDRAW (Title of Work)” before December 31.

For any further questions, please email with your question in the subject line.



“VERDANT WONDERS” LITERARY JOURNAL ENTRY AND PERMISSION

Name _____ Under 18? YES ___ NO ___

Date _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Do you consent to your work being used as inspiration for art pieces that will potentially be displayed alongside your work? *Your answer will not impact consideration of your work* YES ___ NO ___

Fiction (F), Creative Non-fiction (CNF), and Personal Essay (PE) (2500-word limit)

Entry 1 Title _____ Genre _____

Word count _____ Previously published? YES ___ NO ___ *If yes please see additional form.*

Entry 2 Title _____ Genre _____

Word count _____ Previously published? YES ___ NO ___ *If yes please see additional form.*

Entry 3 Title _____ Genre _____

Word count _____ Previously published? YES ___ NO ___ *If yes please see additional form.*

Poetry (2500-word or 2-page limit)

Entry 1 Title _____ Word count _____

Page count _____ Previously published? YES ___ NO ___ *If yes please see additional form.*

Entry 2 Title _____ Word count: _____

Page count _____ Previously published? YES ___ NO ___ *If yes please see additional form.*

Entry 3 Title _____ Word count _____

Page count _____ Previously published? YES ___ NO ___ *If yes please see additional form.*



“VERDANT WONDERS” LITERARY JOURNAL SUBMISSION AGREEMENT
Submissions accepted September 12 to December 31, 2024

Please read the following statements carefully. You are now entering a legally binding agreement.

- a. I agree to allow Summit Metro Parks to publish my work in “Verdant Wonders”.
- b. I grant Summit Metro Parks a non-exclusive right for my work to be housed digitally and/or on the Summit Metro Parks website and be used for the purposes of an audio recording of my work being read, also to be housed on the Summit Metro Parks website.
- c. I understand that I will retain copyright and may submit my work to future publications, acknowledging it was previously published in “Verdant Wonders”.
- d. I agree to allow Summit Metro Parks to use my work published in “Verdant Wonders” for credited use in future projects including but not limited to: programs, publications, story trails, interpretive materials and exhibits without further authorization.
- e. I agree to allow the “Verdant Wonders” committee to lightly copyedit to fix spelling or grammar errors and reformat work for publication purposes.
- f. The work I am submitting is wholly and entirely my own and therefore not a result of plagiarism or generated using artificial intelligence.
- g. Summit Metro Parks is not liable for publishing any work that is later found to be a result of plagiarism or artificial intelligence.
- h. I understand that my work is reviewed by the “Verdant Wonders” committee, who may accept or deny my entry at their own discretion and without explanation.
- i. I understand that there is no compensation to me if my work is included in the journal.
- j. I understand that by signing this document, I am agreeing to the terms above.

Name _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Email _____

Parent or legal guardian’s signature is required for entrants under 18. For parents or legal guardians signing, who is the entrant? _____

This document must be filled out completely and submitted with your literary works and entry form.



975 Treaty Line Road • Akron, Ohio 44313

WRITTEN RELEASE FORM

I agree to participate and grant permission to use, reproduce, distribute and publicly display my literary and written works (hereinafter "works") created during the program cited below for the purpose of development, production, distribution, exhibition, advertising, publicity, promotion and other commercial or non-commercial uses of Summit Metro Parks, Citizens for Summit Metro Parks and The Summit Metro Parks Foundation. I hereby assign and transfer to these organizations all of my interest in the copyrights in the formats in which my works appear.

Program _____ Date _____

Name (*please print*) _____

Signature _____

Address _____

City, State _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

Email _____

RELEASE FOR A MINOR:

Parent or guardian must read, complete and sign this entire form.

I have read and understand the foregoing. I am the named minor child's parent or legal guardian. I hereby approve and acknowledge this agreement/release.

Name of minor (*please print*) _____

Relationship to minor _____

Signature _____



“VERDANT WONDERS” (PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED WORK FORM)

Only complete this form if you are submitting previously published work. Please fill out the information to the best of your ability and submit alongside your Submission Form and Agreement.

Name _____ Date _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Fiction (F), Creative Non-fiction (CNF), and Personal Essay (PE) (2500-word limit)

Entry 1 Title _____ Genre _____

Previously published in _____

Publisher contact name _____

Publisher phone number _____

Publisher email _____

Entry 2 Title _____ Genre _____

Previously published in _____

Publisher contact name _____

Publisher phone number _____

Publisher email _____

Entry 3 Title: _____ Genre _____

Previously published in _____

Publisher contact name _____

Publisher phone number _____

Publisher email _____

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Name _____ Date _____

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Poetry (2500-word or 2-page limit)

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Previously published in _____

Publisher contact name _____

Publisher phone number _____

Publisher email _____

Entry 2 Title _____ Genre _____

Previously published in _____

Publisher contact name _____

Publisher phone number _____

Publisher email _____

Entry 3 Title _____ Genre _____

Previously published in _____

Publisher contact name _____

Publisher phone number _____

Publisher email _____