



Sci-Fest L.A. & Light Bringer Project Present

## THE ROSWELL AWARD

for Short Science Fiction  
Writing Competition

### ABOUT THE ROSWELL AWARD

Sci-Fest L.A. and Light Bringer Project are proud to accept submissions to The Roswell Award from September 15, 2020 through December 15, 2020. The Roswell Award international short science fiction story competition accepts entries from emerging writers age 16 and older. Selected finalists will be chosen and have their stories read in their honor by celebrity guests during a special performance. All finalists and honorable mentions will be recognized for their work. First, Second, and Third place winners will also receive prize money as listed. The “Women Hold Up Half the Sky Award” for feminist sci-fi is co-presented by *Artemis* literary journal and will also be awarded to a distinct winner.

Science fiction writing provides a unique opportunity for writers to aspire to excellence in storytelling and imagine the future of humanity – from how we address scientific, social, philosophical, and environmental issues to the development of new technologies and outer space exploration. Sci-Fest L.A. and Light Bringer Project are proud to take a leadership role in fostering emerging science fiction writers.

### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Entrants must be at least 16 years of age.
- Only one (1) submission is accepted per author.
- Entry must be formatted as a Microsoft Word document, between 500 word minimum to 1,500 words maximum.
- Stories must include a cover page in the body of their submission email with the following information: Name, address, email address, and phone number of the applicant; story title; story word count; and which prize the author wishes to be considered for first (The Roswell Award or Women Hold Up Half the Sky Award). The attached document with the story must include the story title and text, only, with no identifying details.
- Stories are eligible for only one prize, but stories submitted for the Women Hold Up Half the Sky Award will be considered for the First, Second, and Third Place Roswell Award prizes if they do not win the prize category under which the story was originally submitted.
- Stories must not have any previous publication online or in print, including personal websites and social media.
- Stories must be original work. Stories that feature characters, settings, or other defining features of any existing media properties (books, film, TV, etc.), including fan fiction, will not be considered.
- Stories must be received by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, December 15, 2020.
- Stories must be submitted to [TheRoswellAward@gmail.com](mailto:TheRoswellAward@gmail.com).

## PRIZES

- First Place: \$500 USD and access to a UCLA Extension Writers' Program sponsored 10-week or shorter online course with the option of three (3) UCLA academic credits.
- Second Place: \$250 USD
- Third Place: \$100 USD
- Special Award Prize:
  - The "Women Hold Up Half the Sky Award" for best feminist sci-fi is co-presented by *Artemis Journal*:: Print publication in *Artemis Journal* and other prizes to be announced. (see below)

All finalists will have their stories read by celebrity guests during a special performance in May 2021. All finalists and honorable mentions will be formally recognized for their work.

## ABOUT THE "WOMEN HOLD UP HALF THE SKY AWARD" CO-PRESENTED BY ARTEMIS JOURNAL

This award recognizes a science fiction story that embraces feminist themes and has a female protagonist. Top entries will exemplify excellence in feminist storytelling, while capturing the complexities of their characters.

The winner will receive print publication in *Artemis Journal*. *Artemis Journal* is an award-winning non-profit feminist art and creative writing journal. Its purpose is to foster art and literary excellence in the Blue Ridge mountain region of Southwest Virginia and beyond. Learn more at <http://www.artemisjournal.org>. Additional prizes for the winning story will be announced.

*Stories are only eligible for one prize. Stories not chosen for the Women Hold Up Half the Sky Award will be considered for the other Roswell Award prizes.*

## TIPS FOR STRONG SUBMISSIONS

- ★ Focus on telling an engaging story with strong characters, imagery, mood, tone, themes, etc.
- ★ Don't be afraid to experiment with your writing style.
- ★ Know the difference between science fiction and fantasy - don't submit a story about magic. However, we do accept a broad range of science fiction genre types, including science fiction with fantastical elements. Feel free to contact the competition organizer with questions.
- ★ Read the competition description carefully. Think about what interesting themes you can weave into your narrative.
- ★ Polish your work - make sure to carefully edit your story, correct errors, and improve your telling.
- ★ HAVE FUN! Don't stress too much and have fun with your story writing. Write about what interests you!