



Sixth Annual
Joan and Arnold Seidel
Griffith Observer
Science Writing Contest



Griffith Observatory, in the interest of stimulating the flow of information between scientists, science writers, and the public, proudly announces the annual offering of awards for the best articles in astronomy, astrophysics, and space science. For the sixth year, the contest is generously sponsored by Joan and Arnold Seidel.

Articles must be 3500-5000 words in length, typewritten, in English, double-spaced, and accompanied by a brief biographical sketch of the author. Text should be in Microsoft Word “doc” format, with normal paragraphing format (indent first sentence, don’t skip a line between paragraphs). Images must not be embedded in the Word document. At least two (2), camera-ready illustrations must be included. Images must be in TIFF or JPG format at sufficient resolution. Print resolution is 300 pixels per inch, and an image intended to be printed at four inches should be at least 1200 pixels wide. Permissions, if necessary, must be supplied. The author’s name should appear only on a cover sheet and not on the pages of the article itself.

Rules of participation:

- All articles must be postmarked by **December 31, 2017**. The contest is open to all interested persons (Griffith Observatory employees excepted).
- All winning articles become property of Griffith Observatory. The winning articles will be published in the *Griffith Observer*.
- Previously published articles will not be accepted.
- Any number of articles may be submitted to the contest by one person, but only one prize will be awarded to a winning author.
- Judging will be done by Griffith Observatory, and the decision of the judges is final. Each entry is judged anonymously so that the author’s identity is unknown to all of the judges.

Awards are made on the basis of clear and interesting style, accuracy, reader interest in the subject, correct grammar and syntax, originality in presentation and content, and neatness. Failure to meet the requirements on length, appearance, and illustrations may disqualify an entry from consideration.

Awards will be made on March 15, 2018, for the articles which best communicate to the average reader, material of current or historical interest in astronomy, astrophysics, and space science. The cash amounts of the awards are:

\$1,000.00	First Prize
\$350.00	Second Prize
\$200.00	Third Prize
\$150.00	Fourth Prize
\$50.00	Honorable Mention

Electronic mail submissions with the subject line “Seidel *Griffith Observer* Science Writing Contest Submission” are preferred. Postal mail submissions are also accepted, but a disk containing the articles and images must be provided. Address all articles to:

Awards Committee
c/o Griffith Observatory
2800 East Observatory Road
Los Angeles, California 90027
(213) 473-0800
Observer.Contest@lacity.org