



THE ARAB-AMERICAN
EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION



The Arab American Short Story Writing Contest

Are you an Arab American with a story to tell? We are thrilled to announce AAEF's Short Story Contest celebrating the rich and diverse voices of Arab Americans living in the United States, creating a platform for understanding, celebration, and reflection.

This is your opportunity to share your unique journey—moments that have shaped your identity, challenged your perspectives, and brought meaning to your life. Whether your story is joyful, thought-provoking, or deeply personal, we want to hear it! Let your words bridge worlds, spark dialogue, and leave a lasting impact.

What We're Looking For

Short stories that explore themes such as:

- The formation of a dual identity as both Arab and American.
- The journey of navigating cultural, social, and personal identity.
- Struggles with conflicting social values and balancing multiple cultures.
- Experiences with perceived bias or misunderstanding.
- Joyful accounts of acculturation, assimilation, belonging, and community building.

Submitted stories will be initially reviewed by a distinguished committee of professors.

Final judging will be by acclaimed author Sahar Mustafah whose award-winning works include the novel "The Beauty of Your Face" and short stories "Star of Bethlehem" and "Tree of Life".



Why Participate?

Top Prize: The winner will receive the prestigious AAEF Short Story Writing Contest Award and a cash prize of \$1,000.

Publication Opportunity: The selected story will be featured in a publication, amplifying your voice and inspiring others with your experiences.

Deadline to submit: October 15, 2025

How to Submit?

For rules and information on how to participate, please refer to the contest webpage at:

<https://theaaef.org/contest>

Contest Webpage



The Arab-American Educational Foundation (AAEF) is dedicated to upholding a fair and transparent selection process that amplifies the voices and lived experiences of Arab Americans.