

## Gilroy Library Writing/Storytelling Contest Information and Rules

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### *Survival of the Funniest: Finding Laughter in Life's Challenges*

As in the Silicon Valley Reads book selection, *Not a Genuine Black Man* by Brian Copeland, having a sense of humor can get you through life's good times and bad. Gilroy Library invites writers and storytellers to explore the theme of surviving and facing life's challenges with a sense of humor. A reception for writers/storytellers will be held during National Library Week in April. Winning entries will be posted on the library website.

1. Write or tell a humorous story about surviving or coping with life in a short work of fiction, non-fiction, poetry or through the oral tradition of storytelling.
2. Your entry (or an excerpt from a longer work) must be 1000 words or less or 10 minutes or less as a storytelling presentation.
3. All work submitted must be original and created by you.
4. Participants must be registered borrowers of the Santa Clara County Library.
5. People of all ages may participate.
6. A maximum of one entry may be submitted by each individual.
7. In order for your entry to be valid, you must also submit a signed copy of the Release/Author Biography Form for our records.
8. All documents must be typed. A typed transcript should accompany an oral presentation on tape or that has been posted on the Internet. Make sure that your full name appears on each page.
9. You may submit your entry as a Word document on a CD or diskette formatted for PC. Work may be submitted electronically. All the information requested on the application must also be included as text in the body of your email message or as a Word document or pdf attachment. If a storytelling is posted on the Web, please include the appropriate Internet address and a typed transcript.
10. Entries will be accepted from February 1 until 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 21, 2009.
11. A review panel that may include local writers, educators, librarians, and other community members will meet in late March. Winners will be announced at a reception held in honor of the participants during National Library Week in April, 2009.
12. Documents will not be returned. Be sure to keep a copy of your work.
13. Employees of Santa Clara County Library, library commissioners for cities served by the County Library, contest panelists/sponsors may participate in the Staff category.
14. Any entry which does not follow the rules as stated above, is incomplete or has documents in formats that are not readily accessible by the library staff or the review panel, may be disqualified.

For more information, please contact Lani Yoshimura at the Gilroy Library:

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Other Silicon Valley Reads programs -- <http://www.siliconvalleyreads.org/>

