



**Phoenix Desert Rose Chapter of RWA®
2010 Published Authors' Contest
*Judged by Romance Readers***

Contest Rules

1. Entries must be book length fiction with a minimum of 40,000 words (except for the romantic novella category, which accepts stories of less than 40,000 words) with copyright dates between January and December 2009 or first North American printing/release date between January and December 2009.
2. The Contest Committee reserves the right to add or drop categories, depending on the number of entries received. The Contest Committee reserves the right to place a book in a different category from the one in which the author originally entered it.
3. Entry must be received no later than **January 15, 2010**.
4. Once a book is accepted for entry in the contest, there will be no refund.
5. Priority mailing of entries is preferred, with no signature required for receipt.
6. Membership in Romance Writers of America® is required. Entrants must be members in good standing with current membership paid.
7. Category winner will be the highest scoring book in its category, providing the score is in the upper 25% of scores of all contest entries received. If none of the entries in a given category scores in the overall top 25%, there will be no finalist in that category.
8. Finalists will be announced on or about **April 30, 2010**.
9. Winners will be announced in a full page advertisement in the July 2010 issue of *Romance Writers Report*.

10. Entry in the Golden Quill Contest constitutes agreement by the author to conform to all contest rules, abide by the decision of the judges, and hold blameless Desert Rose Chapter, The Golden Quill Contest Coordinators and all judges. In entering, the author agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Chapter, its officers, members and all judges of the Contest from liability for its/their actions arising from or relating to judging and handling of the entry and conducting, sponsoring and advertising the event.

11. The Contest Committee reserves the right to disqualify any entry if rules are not fully met.

12. Author must enclose:

A. Five (5) copies of each book entered. (If a book is entered in two categories, please enclose 5 copies for each entry. Books will not be returned. **Please autograph your books**, as they will be donated after judging is completed. E-published books must be submitted in either book format or printed and bound. No ARCs – advanced reader copies – will be accepted.

B. Optional: Send one additional book for a total of six (6) books per entry. This charitable donation will be included in the Desert Dreams Conference (April 16 – 18, 2010) Golden Quill raffle basket. Proceeds (25%) will go to our local adult literacy program and our chapter, which is non-profit. We encourage you to also include up to (3) promotional items to be included in the basket. Your name will be listed on the page of donors on the basket. This is purely optional and will not have any weight in the outcome of any one entry's placement in the contest. All donations are greatly appreciated. We will provide an official "thank you" for your tax files.

C. A completed **Entry Form** for each book entered. If a book is entered in two categories, then two entry forms must be included. Entry forms may be photocopied.

D. The entry fee of \$25.00 for each book and/or each category entered. The total entry fee should be by check or money order made payable to Desert Rose RWA #60, or paid using PayPal by clicking the button on the **Entry Form** or by visiting www.paypal.com and sending payment to paypal@desertroserwa.org.

E. An **optional** self-addressed stamped postcard on which the contest coordinator will confirm receipt of your entry.

13. Send entry, marked with category on outside of package, to:

Sonya Parsons
21356 N. 83rd St.
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

For additional information, please contact: Sonya Parsons,
goldenquill@desertroserwa.org or go online to
www.desertroserwa.org/goldenquill/goldenquill.htm