

# 2011 Mark Twain Awards

- All MTWA Active members in good standing are invited to submit published/produced work in the broad category of travel writing that appeared or was broadcast between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011, except books, which must have been published since June 2010.

Category descriptions follow:

- All entries must be **POSTMARKED** on or before **January 31, 2012**. Entry Fee is \$10 for the first entry, \$5 for each additional entry up to a total of eight entries per person. There is no limit to the number of entries in any individual category. Send entries to:

Mike Norton  
Media Relations Specialist  
Traverse City Convention & Visitors Bureau  
101 W. Grandview Parkway  
Traverse City, MI 49684

- MTWA will display all entries and highlight winning entries at the annual awards banquet in Fayetteville in April 2012. Following the competition, MTWA plans to photocopy winning entries strictly for distribution to interested members of the organization.

## PRIZES:

- The judge reserves the right to award more than one prize or no prizes in each category. The first place winner in each category earns a Mark Twain Award. From the Mark Twain Award recipients in all categories the judge may select one writer to be named Mark Twain Travel Writer of the Year.
- Cash prizes are awarded for second and third place winners. In all categories:
  - **Honorable Mention** recipients will receive a certificate.
  - **Third Place** winners will receive a certificate and a check for \$25.
  - **Second Place** winners will receive a certificate and a check for \$50.
  - **First Place** winners in all categories will receive a certificate and check for \$100.
  - **Mark Twain Travel Writer of the Year** will receive an engraved award and an American Airlines ticket to anywhere in the continental U.S.

## CATEGORIES AND GUIDELINES:

1. Newspaper Articles
2. Magazine Articles
3. Series, Newspaper or Magazine
4. Recent Sites Articles - Articles must originate from MTWA meetings at one of the six most recent meeting sites: Macon, Milwaukee, Baton Rouge, Rapid City, Chicago, Gulf Shores
5. Geographic Area Articles (about destinations within MTWA's geographic area) - Articles must have been published in regularly audited newspapers or magazines, not self-published or published in a small, privately distributed pamphlet or newsletter. Articles must have been published and broadcasts aired during the calendar year 2011.
6. Photojournalism (Entries must be the sole work, both writing and photography, of a MTWA member.)

7. Socially Responsible Travel - Includes such topics as ecotourism, culturally sensitive travel, and volunteer vacations. (All proceeds from entry fees in this category will be donated to the subject of the winning article.)
8. Books (Books must have been published since June 2010. A MTWA member must author the book.)
9. Short Copy - Any travel pieces, advisories, or news items that are 500 words or less in length.
10. Other (Broadcast programs, Internet sites, specialty travel publications, phone apps, etc. are covered in this category. Broadcast entries may have been produced/hosted by other talent but an MTWA member must have done the writing.) [Several representative pages of an app will suffice as an entry.](#)

All entries must be accompanied by the entry forms, fully and properly completed with the title of each piece; and your name, address, and **last 4 numbers of your Social Security number**. A maximum of eight entries is allowed per person. There is no limit to the number of entries submitted in each category. Individual articles may be entered in only one category, even though they may qualify for more than one.

#### **MARK TWAIN AWARDS PREPARATION OF ENTRIES:**

A judge will review your work and select winners. As a result, you must submit **ONE COPY** of each entry, prepared according to the criteria below. This will ensure your entries are complete and judged in the appropriate category.

#### **Articles:**

Good photocopies are acceptable. Articles must be mounted on 8-1/2" x 11" paper. Use several sheets if necessary to present entries in a legible manner. Remove or conceal byline and name of publication on each page. The last 4 numbers of your Social Security number and category name must appear on each page.

#### **Photojournalism:**

Good photocopies are acceptable. Mount tearsheets on 8-1/2" x 11" (or larger) paper. Prints or slides of photos may (but are not required) accompany story if reproduction on submitted article is poor. Submit only those slides/photos that were used with the story. Your entry will be judged on the article and how your photos enhance the story. The last 4 numbers of your Social Security number and category name must appear on each page.

#### **Books:**

You must submit the book(s). You need not write or paste over the author reference in the book. The last 4 numbers of your Social Security number and category name must appear on the cover.

#### **Other:**

Submit a copy of the material written with info on the date of the Internet site or specialty publication. Broadcast entries submit an audio cassette or VHS tape. If possible, include copy of script and title of the program. The last 4 numbers of your Social Security number and category name must appear on all entries, but cover/remove your name from the material.

No entries will be returned except books, tapes, or slides/photos that are accompanied by a self-addressed mailer with sufficient postage affixed. All entries will be mailed after the awards presentation.