

When judging graphic novel entries, consider the following criteria and rate submissions based on the degree to which they're met for their age group:

### **Illustration:**

- **Workmanship**
  - Is it clean and professional, or are there smudges, sloppy lines, etc.
  - Are the illustrations clear? Is it easy to tell what's going on, who is who?
  - Is the story visually easy to follow?
  - Is the quality of work consistent throughout the comic?
- ● **Technique**
  - What level of skill and/or effort is evident for their age group?
  - Are characters and objects drawn accurately for their age and skills?
  - Are they successfully using their chosen media?
  - Is there visual depth (overlapping, line weight, sense of space). If applicable, is perspective being portrayed correctly?
  - If applicable, is there an understanding of light and shadow?
- ● **Page Layout**
  - Does the overall page and panel layout flow?
  - Are the transitions easy to follow?
  - How are the compositions and framing within the panels?
  - Does the shape, size, and placement of panels tell you anything more about the emotion or importance of their scenes, or are they generic?
- ● **Creativity**
  - Is the style unique and distinctive or have you seen it a lot?
  - Are there interesting character designs?
  - Does the background design serve as an interesting setting?
- ● **Expressiveness**
  - How much emotion/reaction can be read from the character's facial expressions and body language? Can you tell without reading the text?
  - Do the illustrations overall (characters, style, setting) evoke a certain mood? Does it match the story?

## Story & Text:

- Originality
  - Have you seen this story before?
  - If so, did they take a new or interesting view of it?
  - Is it predictable? If there's a twist, is it thoughtful or an easy out?
  - Does the story resonate or leave any impact on you?
- ● Clarity & Plot
  - Is the story easy to follow? If not, does it feel like it's that way on purpose?
  - How is the pacing?
  - Does the plot make sense? Is there some form of resolution?
  - How well does the text move the story forward?
- ● Setting & Characters
  - Is the setting well established?
  - How do the characters work in the setting?
  - Do the characters feel genuine instead of cliché? Are they unique from each other?
  - Do the characters grow?
- ● Grammar & Dialogue
  - Is the grammar and spelling correct? If not, does it help or detract from the story?
  - Is the dialogue appropriate for the age group?
  - Is the dialogue authentic? Does it match the emotion presented in the images or author's intent?
- ● Use of Text
  - Is the text legible?
  - Is the text well-placed within the art?
  - Is there a balance between the text and art that serves the story well?
  - Do text variations (font styles, bold/italic/underline, sound effects, etc.) make sense and help the story, or is it out of place?

### Judging Scorecard

Based on the detailed rubric, write the number that best represents the comic's fulfillment in that criteria on a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest. <b>Illustration</b>		<b>Story &amp; Text</b>	
Workmanship	/ 5	Originality	/ 5
Technique	/ 5	Clarity & Plot	/ 5
Page Layout	/ 5	Setting & Characters	/ 5
Creativity	/ 5	Grammar & Dialogue	/ 5
Expressiveness	/ 5	Use of Text	/ 5
Total	/ 25	Total	/ 25