



Les Dames d'Escoffier International's 2018 M.F.K. Fisher Awards for Excellence in Culinary Writing

2018 ENTRY RULES

IN BRIEF: This year, it's easier for you to enter! Except for books entered (which must be snail mailed), all the entry materials **MAY BE** submitted **electronically by email** to MFKFisher18@aol.com.

1. First, **EVERYONE must** enter all of the required information online at www.ldei.org and pay the entry fee with a credit card (or mail a check to the address on page 5, 6 or 7).
2. Then download and complete the fillable PDF, "**Entry Form and Agreement**," posted at the website by typing on it and emailing it to the above address **OR** print and complete by hand if you want to snail mail your entry(ies). See page 5, 6 or 7 for the address.
3. Entrants in the **Print** and **Internet** categories must type the **URL** where the article appears on the Internet. If the article does not appear on the Internet, email a PDF or scan of the article as it appeared in a magazine, newspaper, newsletter, or online (see examples below).
4. Alternatively, printed copies of the article and entry materials may be **snail mailed** to the awards chair.
5. **EVERYONE must** email a Word document containing the text of your article to the chair.

See pages 5, 6, and 7 for directions for emailing or snail mailing entries in the three categories.

Example of an Internet Entry

<http://luckypeach.com/the-meaning-of-mangoes/>



The Meaning of Mangoes

The taste of longing for my parents, who escaped the Communist revolution in China.

By DIANNE JACOB

In the 1960s, when I was a kid, the only tropical fruits in Vancouver supermarkets were bananas, pineapples, and coconuts. My immigrant dad bought them all, but longed for the bright yellow mangoes he had grown up with in Shanghai.

He'd tried growing his own Asian produce in our cold and rainy climate, with small successes. The melons and chilies didn't take, Chinese chives did. On snowy winter mornings, I ventured into our backyard to pick them for scrambled eggs. In summer my dad peeled long, pale-green stalks of celtuce and left them in the fridge, bobbing in ice water, for a snack that was sweet like tender lettuce and juicy like celery, without the stringiness. But there was no mango anywhere.

My parents came to Canada in 1949, refugees escaping the coming

Example of a Print Entry

www.wsj.com/articles/why-you-should-order-the-egg-cream-1441313172

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Home World U.S. Politics Economy Business Tech Markets Opinion Arts Life

Why You Should Order the Egg Cream

Will this soda fountain favorite win the hearts of a new generation? A few recent iterations are certainly bringing new fizz to the egg cream. Here are two recipes—one extra-rich, one rum-spiked



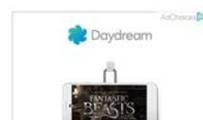
Harold Moon, chef and co-owner of Commerce Sweet Shop in New York City shares his version of the classic egg cream. Photo: John Taggart

By KATHLEEN SQUIRES
Sept. 3, 2015 4:46 p.m. ET

14 COMMENTS

"AN EGG CREAM?" my mother said when I mentioned the soda-fountain staple recently. "I haven't had one of those since I left Brooklyn 60 years ago!" The news that the sweet, fizzy drink might be making a comeback did not compute with her.

To be fair to Mom, most people have relegated the egg cream to another time, another New York—one where you could count on





BACKGROUND

2018 M.F.K. Fisher Awards for Excellence in Culinary Writing

LDEI's M.F.K. Fisher Awards, presented annually, honor Mary Frances Kennedy Fisher, a widely read and lauded culinary writer. Before her death in 1992, M.F.K. Fisher personally gave her permission to Les Dames d'Escoffier International to present awards in her name.

A total of **\$2,450** cash prizes will be awarded. For each of the three categories below, three cash prizes and certificates will be awarded: **\$500 (USD) to the category winner, \$100 for second prize, and \$50 for third prize**, making a total of nine cash prizes. An additional \$500 will be awarded to the grand-prize winner judged to be the best of the three category winners (totaling \$1000).

The grand-prize winner will also receive round trip (coach class) airfare to the conference city to receive her honor in person (mandatory) at the gala awards banquet.

- Book Category
- Internet Category
- Print Category (newspaper, magazine, and newsletter entries)

LDEI's awards are given to women writers whose published works reflect creativity and insight, and illuminate the pivotal roles of food, beverages, the arts of the table or contribute to our knowledge of those who grow, produce or prepare nourishment.

The entries should be nonfiction, and may include analytical pieces, autobiographical explorations—including reminiscences and personal experiences—and forays into culinary history.

Each entry can be no longer than **2,000** words. Entries longer than 2,000 words or those that have not followed the Criteria for Entries will be disqualified.

The entry will be judged on writing, knowledge of subject matter, topic, relevance and creative approach by qualified judges.

Goals of the Award:

- To honor the accomplishments of M.F.K. Fisher and to showcase her contributions to gastronomy.
- To give recognition to a woman who is engaged in significant culinary writing.

CRITERIA FOR ENTRIES

1. The work must be original and published in English during **2017**.
2. The work must have been published in a book, newspaper, magazine, or newsletter (or their online counterpart), or on Internet sites (such as blogs, culinary websites, or newsletters).
3. A maximum of 2,000 words may be submitted. The entry may be a portion of a published article or book and need not be an article in its entirety.
4. The words must be taken continuously from the publication and not from assorted pages.
5. Authors must be women residents of the **United States, Canada, Mexico, or Great Britain (England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland)**.
6. The work may be submitted by the author or her editor, publisher, agent, or other authorized person.
7. Previous grand-prize winners of LDEI's M.F.K. Fisher Award are not eligible to win another grand prize, but they are eligible to win a first, second, or third prize in a category.
8. The nominee must sign an agreement stating that she will attend the award ceremony.
9. Although members of LDEI are eligible to receive the award, directors and officers of LDEI and their families as well as the M.F.K. Fisher Awards chair are not eligible.

ENTRY FEE \$35

The entry process begins on the LDEI website (www.ldei.org). Applicants **must** enter all of the required information online.

Payment can be made online by credit card (**Visa, MC or AE** only).or by mailing a check. The fee (per entry, not per person) is \$35 USD.

If paying by check, it must be mailed to **LDEI M.F.K. Fisher Award, P.O. Box 4961, Louisville, KY 40204.**

Make checks or money orders payable to **Les Dames d'Escoffier International**. Checks must be drawn on a United States bank.

If you or your publisher enter more than one entry (in either one, two, or three categories), only one check, money order, or credit card number need be included for all the entries. However, you must submit one Entry Form AND one Agreement for each entry.

LDEI is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization. Its tax number is 11-2994412.

JUDGING and CRITERIA

LDEI's judges are editors, authors, journalists, educators and other food professionals who are leaders in their fields, who are not members of LDEI, and who have not entered the 2018 M.F.K. Fisher Award competition. The identities of the judges are kept confidential to allow complete impartiality. The entries are judged according to a point system by judges who work independently of each other. Each judge completes a scoring sheet based on the following criteria:

Writing (maximum 50 points)

Mastery of subject matter (maximum 20 points)

Topic and creative approach that shows author's voice (maximum 20 points)

Relevance (maximum 10 points)

PRIZES

The nine cash prizes (three in each category) for the M.F.K. Fisher Awards for Excellence in Culinary Writing are \$500 (USD) each for first prize in the Book, Internet, and Print categories; \$100 for second prize; and \$50 for third prize. An additional \$500 (USD) will be awarded to the grand-prize winner judged to be the best of the three category winners. The grand-prize winner will also receive round trip (coach class) airfare to the conference city to receive her honor in person (mandatory) from within the U.S., Canada, Mexico, England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland plus the awards dinner for herself and one guest.

The following expenses will be paid by Les Dames d'Escoffier International:

- Round trip coach airfare between the closest airport to the winner's residence and the airport near the conference location will be purchased by LDEI.
- Luggage fee for one suitcase (if applicable).
- Ground transportation to the conference hotel (taxi or shuttle -- no limousines).
- Car rental requires prior approval from LDEI. Personal vehicle travel will be reimbursed at the prevailing mileage rate.
- Two nights at the host hotel, room and tax only.
- Meals that are not provided as part of the LDEI conference will be reimbursed with these limits:
 - \$15 for breakfast
 - \$25 for lunch
 - \$45 for dinner

Les Dames d'Escoffier International WILL NOT PAY for the following expenses; they are the responsibility of the winner.

- Inflight WIFI, entertainment, seat upgrades, snacks, and beverages on airplanes.
- Incidental room charges including mini-bar charges, in-room movies, health-club fees, room-service meals, and laundry/dry cleaning.

Contest winners will be notified **by July 2018** so that they can set aside time to attend LDEI's MFK Fisher Awards presentation during the LDEI Annual Conference **October 11-14, 2018**, at the **Renaissance Seattle Downtown**, Seattle, Washington.

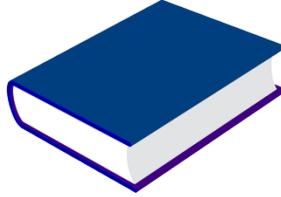
ENTRY MATERIALS MUST BE POSTMARKED OR EMAILED BY **MARCH 31, 2018**.

QUESTIONS: If you have questions about any of the rules,

contact the **MFK Fisher Awards Chair:**

CiCi Williamson at (703) 533-0066 or e-mail: MFKFisher18@aol.com.

BOOK Category Entry Instructions



Each book entry must include one autographed copy of the book in which the 2,000-word section is marked using “sticky notes” and pencil notations to indicate the beginning and end of the selection.

The book will not be returned. It will be publicized and included in the non-profit organization’s auction.

In addition to the book, a **Microsoft Word** document (NOT a PDF, jpeg, or any other type of file) of the selected text must be e-mailed to mfkfisher18@aol.com for ease in transmission to the judges.

The Awards Chair will remove any photos, website identifiers, and the author’s name from the Word file. For uniformity, she will format the files in Times New Roman font, 12 pt. text, so that all entries will appear the same to the judges.

CHECKLIST FOR BOOK ENTRIES

MAIL BOOK and printed (if not emailing) Entry Form and Agreement to:

**CiCi Williamson, Chair
LDEI’s M.F.K. Fisher Award
6025 Chesterbrook Rd.
McLean, VA 22101**

Email Book entries: Attach 2 files to your email message

_____ ATTACH a Microsoft **Word** document to an email containing the 2,000-word (maximum) selection from the book. Email to mfkfisher18@aol.com. PDF files are not acceptable.

_____ Also attach completed the **Entry Form & Agreement** (filled PDF downloaded from www.ldei.org). Typing your initials suffices for your signature on the fillable entry form.

Snail mailed entry materials must include:

_____ One copy of the book, autographed. (The book will not be returned; after LDEI judging use, the book will be included in the non-profit organization’s auction).

_____ Completed **Entry Form and Agreement**. Can be printed at www.ldei.org.

_____ ATTACH a Microsoft **Word** document to an email containing the 2,000-word (maximum) selection from the book. Email to mfkfisher18@aol.com. PDF files are not acceptable.

_____ If not paying by credit card online, mail a check or money order (\$35 for each entry, not each person) to **LDEI M.F.K. Fisher Award, P.O. Box 4961, Louisville, KY 40204**.

Entry materials may be sent by USPS or express delivery service. Please make the proper notation on any delivery form that “a signature is not required upon delivery.” Your cancelled check or online confirmation is your receipt. Postmark or email entries and fees by **Saturday, March 31, 2018**, or any time before that date.

INTERNET Category Entry Instructions



Each entry must include the **URL** of the writing as it appears online. If the writing is no longer posted online, a PDF of the writing as it appeared online and showing the posting date must be emailed or snail mailed. The awards chair will use this copy to verify that the writing occurred during 2017 and that it matches the **Word** file that the chair will format and send to the judges

You must send a **Microsoft Word** document (not a PDF jpeg, or any other type of file) for ease in transmission to the judges. Email the attachment to mfkfisher18@aol.com with the full text of the original work including the earliest publication or post date. The name and URL of the website homepage and, if available, a URL link to the active or archived online work must be submitted.

The Awards Chair will remove any photos, website identifiers, and the author's name from the Word file. For uniformity, she will format the files sent to the judges in Time New Roman font, 12 pt. text, so that all entries will appear the same.

CHECKLIST FOR INTERNET ENTRIES

Emailed entries (attach 2 files to your email message:

- _____ **Attach** completed **Entry Form & Agreement** (downloaded from www.ldei.org). Typing your initials suffices for your signature on the fillable entry form. (**NOTE:** If the entry is not currently posted online, also attach a PDF of the entry as it appeared online.)
- _____ **Word** document of the text.

Snail mailed entry materials must include:

- _____ **One printed copy or PDF of the writing as it appears(ed) online**
- _____ Completed **Entry Form** and **Agreement** (printed from www.ldei.org)

_____ In addition, ATTACH a **Microsoft Word** file to an **email** containing the 2,000-word (maximum) selection including the earliest publication or post date, the name and URL of the Web site homepage, and, if available, a URL link to the active or archived online work. Email to mfkfisher18@aol.com.

PDF files of the text are not acceptable.

_____ If not paying by credit card online, mail a check or money order (\$35 for each entry, not each person) to **LDEI M.F.K. Fisher Award, P.O. Box 4961, Louisville, KY 40204.**

Entry materials may be sent by regular U.S. mail or express delivery service. Please make the proper notation on any delivery form that "a signature is not required upon delivery." The cancelled check or online confirmation is your receipt. Postmark or email entries by **Saturday, March 31, 2018**, or any time before that date.

TO SNAIL MAIL INTERNET ENTRY MATERIALS, send to:

**CiCi Williamson, Chair
LDEI's M.F.K. Fisher Award
6025 Chesterbrook Rd.
McLean, VA 22101**

PRINT Category Entry Instructions



To email print entries: Each print entry must include a PDF file or scan of the original article as it appeared in print.

If snail mailing the entry materials: Send one original **tear sheet** or **printout** of the article as it appears(ed) on the print publication's website with full text of the article as published. Mark the beginning and end of the 2,000-word (maximum) selection. Tear sheet must include title of the article, name and date of publication, and by-line or credit. (If the article is not by-lined, the tear sheet must be accompanied by a letter from the publication's editor-in-chief confirming the authorship.)

You must also email a **Microsoft Word** document (not a PDF jpeg, or any other type of file) for ease in transmission to the judges. Email the attachment to mfkfisher18@aol.com with the full text of the original work including the publication date.

The Awards Chair will remove any photos, website identifiers, and the author's name from the Word file. For uniformity, she will format the files sent to the judges in Time New Roman font, 12 pt. text, so that all entries will appear the same.

CHECKLIST FOR PRINT ENTRIES

Emailed entries (attach 2 files to your email message:

- Completed **Entry Form** and **Agreement** (downloaded from www.ldei.org). **(NOTE: If the entry is not currently posted online, also attach a PDF of the entry as it appeared online.)**
- Word** document of the text.

Snail mailed entry materials must include:

- One printed tear sheet OR printout of the writing as it was published** with the 2,000-word (maximum) selection marked (email a PDF or scan of the published writing).
- Completed **Entry Form** and **Agreement** (printed from www.ldei.org)

In addition, ATTACH a Microsoft Word file to an **email** containing the 2,000-word (maximum) selection including the earliest publication or post date, the name and URL of the Web site homepage, and, if available, a URL link to the active or archived online work. Email to mfkfisher18@aol.com. **PDF files are not acceptable.**

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