



### District Tournament Overview

## Valley View Junior High School

**Location:** 202 Jackson Street  
Farmersville, Ohio 45327

**Tournament Date:** Saturday, January 28, 2012

**Host School Coordinator:** Beth Genslinger. She may be reached after school at 937-855-4203 or by cellphone at 937-238-0744. Her e-mail address is [vvjrbgenslinger@mdeca.org](mailto:vvjrbgenslinger@mdeca.org). You may also contact your State Coordinator, Beth Dixon, at 937-206-1753 (cell phone).

**Counties Participating:** Montgomery

**Regional Assignment:** Students that qualify for the Regional Tournament will go to Wittenberg University on March 3, 2012

#### REMINDERS:

1. One teacher may COACH both grade levels. But one teacher CANNOT judge both grade levels on the day of a competition. *DO NOT ENTER A TEAM AT BOTH GRADE LEVELS UNLESS YOU CAN PROVIDE AND TRAIN A JUDGE FOR EACH GRADE LEVEL*
2. The signature of your Principal must appear on your Registration Form.
3. Either payment or PO # must accompany your Enrollment Form.
4. To avoid a late registration fee, your registration must be received by October 15th.
5. To avoid a late payment fee, instruct your Treasurer or Business Office to pay your PO by 12/31/11
6. Contestant and Judge names (on pink sheet) are due December 1st. (The due date for December events is November 20th.)
7. Do not attempt to FAX entry Forms or Contestant and Judge names on colored paper. COPY COLORED PAPER FORMS TO WHITE PAPER BEFORE FAXING (FAX: 330-659-6291). Scanned copies of the forms may also be e-mailed to: [webmaster@powerofthepen.org](mailto:webmaster@powerofthepen.org).
8. Questions concerning fees may be addressed to the State Office- 330-659-3226, or by e-mail: [webmaster@powerofthepen.org](mailto:webmaster@powerofthepen.org).

*Looking for New Ways to make Writing  
More Exciting in your Classroom?*

*Why not join  
other Ohio Middle Schools  
and treat your students to*

***Power of the Pen***

Interscholastic Tournaments  
for

- Young Writers that
- ✍ Identify
  - ✍ Challenge
  - ✍ Reward

Excellence in Written Expression



*Where?*

**VALLEY VIEW JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

202 JACKSON STREET

FARMERSVILLE, OHIO 45327

*When?*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2012  
9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

*This non-profit educational program has been endorsed by  
the Ohio Middle School Association,  
and the Ohio Activities Association  
for Seventh and Eighth Grade Students*

**Power of the Pen**

Box 442

Richfield, Ohio 44286

Telephone 330-659-3226 FAX 330-659-6291

e-mail: [webmaster@powerofthepen.org](mailto:webmaster@powerofthepen.org)

Website: [www.powerofthepen.org](http://www.powerofthepen.org)

### **What's it all about?**

Almost every school throughout the nation has a football team, a basketball team, and a wrestling team. Why not a writing team? Why not a season of interscholastic writing events? Why not a regional competition for the best young writers in Ohio? Why not a State Finals to measure and reward the art of written expression?

These were the questions that inspired the vision and development in 1986 of a program called POWER OF THE PEN, a program which was incorporated as a non-profit educational organization in 1989 and has since attracted participation from schools in more than 80 counties in Ohio.

### **How does it work?**

Through a series of interscholastic writing tournaments, designed for students in grades 7 and 8, POWER OF PEN encourages schools to develop writing teams, allows young writers to meet, compete, and receive recognition and awards for excellence in three rounds of impromptu writing, and offers immediate feedback from teacher coaches who act as judges on the quality of their written expression. The project has also proved to be valuable in providing schools with incentives for strengthening the writing process; in training teachers to grade compositions holistically; in providing materials for pre-tournament practice and post-tournament activities; and in identifying strongholds of excellence whereby methods and techniques used in successful writing programs may be shared. Participating schools receive a Writing Coach's Manual, practice prompts, and models of excellence with which to work. **THESE ARE COPYRIGHTED MATERIALS AVAILABLE FOR USE BY MEMBER SCHOOLS ONLY.**

### **How much does it cost?**

Schools may enter a full writing team of 12 students (six seventh and six eighth graders) for an Entry Fee of \$350 if payment or purchase order is received by October 15, 2011. After this date, the Entry Fee is \$375. Or a school may enter a writing team at either grade level (7th or 8th), in which case the Early Entry Fee is \$275, and after October 15th it is \$300. The Entry Fee covers the cost of (a) this year's Membership in Power of the Pen and materials which may be used effectively in the classroom as well as for preparing writing teams; (b) District participation; and (c) Regional participation. Each school is guaranteed that at least one District contestant at each grade level will be qualified to continue to the Regional level. If a school does not participate at Regional, the fee remains the same. Small schools may enter less than six or twelve students to form a team, but the fee remains the same. Once a school enrolls and receives materials, there is no refund of fees invoiced or paid.

### **Other Requirements**

One qualified teacher-judge per grade level team is required to accompany the students to the District tournament and serve, as needed, as a tournament judge for the day. **A school unable to supply Judges at both grade levels may enter a team at only ONE grade level.** It is also mandatory to bring along at least one adult volunteer to assist.

### **Where and when are the tournaments?**

Schools in Montgomery County may attend a POWER OF THE PEN tournament at Valley View Middle School on Saturday, January 28, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Qualifiers from this event may attend the Regional Tournament at Wittenberg University on March 3, 2012. Schools finding either of these dates inconvenient should contact Power of the Pen to explore other possible sites and/or dates. Coaches should avoid selecting team members who have other events to attend on either of these dates.

### **Where can I get more information about POWER OF THE PEN?**

Your Host School Coordinator is Beth Genslinger. She may be reached after school at 937-855-4203, by cell [phone at 937-238-0744, or e-mail her [vvjrbgenslinger@mdeca.org](mailto:vvjrbgenslinger@mdeca.org). You may also contact your State Coordinator, Beth Dixon, at 937-390-2452 (evenings only).

MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE TOURNAMENT AND HOW YOU CAN HELP PREPARE YOUR STUDENTS FOR IT WILL BE SENT AS SOON AS YOU RETURN THE ENCLOSED REGISTRATION FORM WITH PAYMENT OR PURCHASE ORDER NUMBER TO:

POWER OF THE PEN  
Box 442  
Richfield, Ohio 44286  
Tel 330-659-3226 FAX 330-659-6291  
e-mail: [webmaster@powerofthepen.org](mailto:webmaster@powerofthepen.org)



# Power of the Pen

## Initial Registration

**VALLEY VIEW JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**  
202 JACKSON STREET  
FARMERSVILLE, OHIO 45327

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2012 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.**

Qualifiers from the District Tournament will attend the Regional interscholastic competition on March 3, 2012, at

### WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY

Qualifiers from the Regional Tournament will attend the State Tournament at **The College of Wooster** on May 24-25, 2012.

### Early Registration Deadline-- October 15, 2011

*After Nov. 1st schools whose payment or P.O # not been received will be invoiced an additional \$25 for deferred entry.  
Payment on all purchase orders must be made by December 31st to avoid an additional assessment.*

### Please Check One

- We are entering BOTH 7th & 8th grade contestants (1-6 at each grade level) for \$350. (After 10/15/11, the fee is \$375) This covers Membership, and both District & Regional participation.
- We wish to enter ONE GRADE ONLY (1-6 students) for \$275. (Note after 10/15/11, the fee is \$300). This covers Membership, and both District & Regional participation.
- We wish to enroll as *members only* for a fee of \$100. This entitles us to receive and use Power of the Pen materials in the classroom\*; it does not cover tournament entry fees.

*\*This fee does not entitle the enrollee to hold POP tournaments on its own.*

*Please print or type information*

SCHOOL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

SCHL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
Include Area Code

SCHL FAX \_\_\_\_\_  
Include Area Code

***This registration is approved by the School Principal.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Principal's signature- required.

Name of 7TH WRITING COACH \_\_\_\_\_

Home PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Include Area Code

Name of 8TH WRITING COACH \_\_\_\_\_

Home PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Include Area Code

***Mail this registration form to:***

**POWER OF THE PEN**  
Box 442  
Richfield, Ohio 44286

The sooner you register, the sooner you will receive instructions for identifying writers for your team and practice materials to prepare them for this season of events. Make checks payable to POWER OF THE PEN, or provide Purchase Order number. ***THERE IS NO REFUND OF FEES IN CASE OF WITHDRAWAL.***