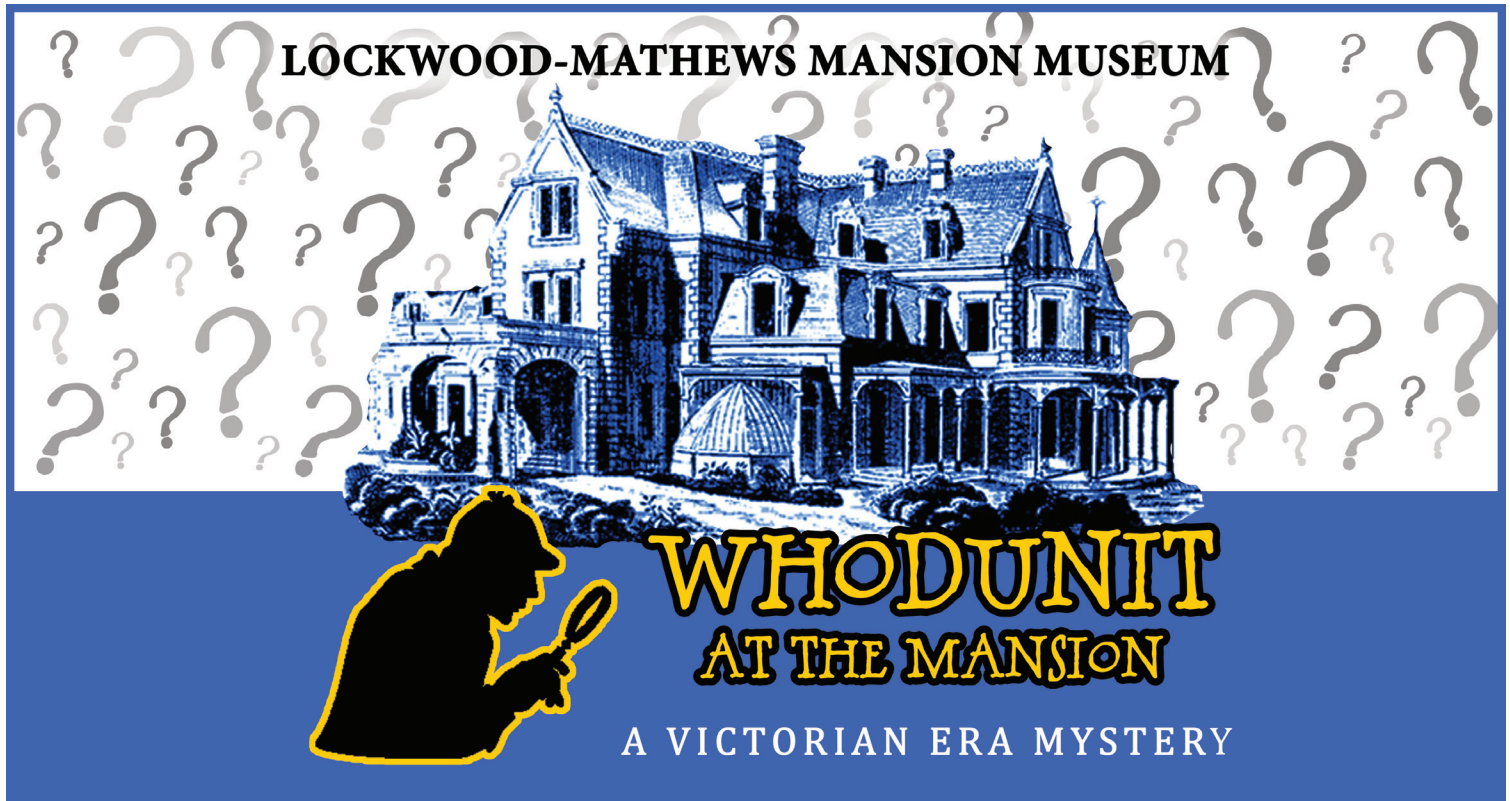




# 2019 LOCKWOOD-MATHEWS MANSION MUSEUM'S YOUNG WRITERS' COMPETITION

## *Grades 6-8*



### ***Requirements***

*Please see attached template for additional guidelines.*

- No more than 5 typed pages, double-spaced, and 12 point font.
- All papers must be submitted by **Friday, June 7, 2019**.
- Stories should include at least 3 facts about the history of the Mansion.
- Students are encouraged to research the topic and gather information for their story.

### ***Winners will receive cash and other prizes!***

Competition winners and their families will be Guests of Honor at the Awards Ceremony on **Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019**.

The Museum's 2019 cultural and educational programs are made possible in part by generous funding from:

#### **FOUNDING PATRONS:**

*The Estate of Mrs. Cynthia Clark Brown*

#### **2019 SEASON DISTINGUISHED BENEFACTORS:**

*The  
Maurice Goodman  
Foundation*





THE LOCKWOOD-MATHEWS MANSION MUSEUM  
*A Registered National Historic Landmark*

## *2019 Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum's Young Writers' Competition*

### **A Victorian Era Mystery: “Whodunit” at the Mansion**

Grades 6 – 8 Background Information & Requirements

#### **Background Information**

Detective novels became popular during the Victorian era when the Mansion, then known as “Elm Park,” was built for LeGrand and Ann Louisa Lockwood. Young writers are asked to write a short historical “whodunit” that will include at least three facts weaved into the fictional account. Students may introduce friends that might have visited the Lockwoods or the Mathews at the Mansion for a special occasion, such as a dinner party or a private concert, as well as a detective from the City of Norwalk. All descriptions must be in keeping with the historical period selected. Research the Mansion and the families who lived here by reading the history on the LMMM website, under the tab, “History,” and by talking to the museum’s educators, if needed. Writers will have to learn about the Mansion’s Period Rooms, as they will serve as the backdrop for their story. All stories must have non-violent content. **No murders, please!**

#### **Possible Scenarios:**

- A valuable piece of jewelry has been lost by an absent-minded family member. Identify outsiders who came to the Mansion who may be potential suspects.
- The statue of Edwin and Florence Lockwood was damaged overnight. Help a detective from the City of Norwalk and members of the Lockwood family find the person who broke this precious work of art.
- Taking place today, a priceless artifact from the Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum has been stolen (or gone missing). Write a story about the history of the artifact, why it was stolen, who took it, and help the Museum’s curator solve the mystery.

#### **Requirements**

- No more than 5 typed pages, double-spaced and 12-point font.
- Stories should include at least 3 facts about the history of the Mansion.
- Students are encouraged to research the topic and gather information for their story.
- Papers due by **Friday, June 7th**.

#### **Awards and Prizes**

- The writers of the top three papers will be awarded cash and other prizes.
- The Awards Ceremony will be held on **Sunday, November 17th**.