

SUNDAY | MAY 24, 2026

NORMAN L. FAGAN STATE THEATER - CULTURE CENTER

Registration for Liars Contest: 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Contest Begins: 2:30 p.m.

AWARDS:

\$100 First Place; \$75 Second Place; \$50 Third Place; \$25 Youth Award (15 and Under)

WEST VIRGINIA RESIDENTS ONLY

1. The "lies" should be short stories (humorous, dramatic, supernatural, etc.) with a maximum length of 5 minutes.
 2. All contestants must register. Three winners to be chosen from all competitors and a youth award.
 3. Award ceremony will take place after the contest.
 4. Judging will be done by a panel of three storytelling experts who will score each contestant in the following:
 - TECHNIQUE** - Delivery, confidence, general stagecraft
 - STORY DEVELOPMENT** - Good development of the tale in given time
 - ORIGINALITY** - New material or fresh handling of a familiar yarn
 - EFFECTIVENESS** - In judges' opinion, taking audience responsiveness
- The three judges will score each of the four categories from 1 to 5, with a maximum of 20 points per competitor. Final scores will not be given to the contestants
5. The judges will confer at the end of the contest to decide the winners.
 6. The decision of the judges will be final.
 7. All tales will be recorded and placed in the WV State Archives. Stories may be published in GOLDENSEAL or other publications.
 8. First place winner in the previous Liars Contest is not eligible to compete this year, just as the winner this year is not eligible to compete next year.
 9. To process monetary awards, winners must complete a standard W-9 form, an invoice, and supply the WV Department of Tourism with Social Security numbers.

Youth winners must have their own Social Security numbers and be accompanied by a parent when completing the forms. Parents' Social Security numbers are not accepted.

Winners will receive award checks in the mail within three weeks after completing forms are approved.

