



**Royston Arts Festival 2020**

## **Creative Writing Competition**

### **Terms and Conditions of entry**

Creative Royston are looking for original writing from authors in four age groups, 5-9, 10-13, 14-17 and 18+, which connects in some way to the Royston Arts Festival 2020 theme, 'A Question of Balance', in 500 words or fewer.

Judges from the world of journalism and literature will assess the entries and the winners in each age group will be announced during the festival and made available to read online.

Entries can be either fiction or non-fiction and we have removed the distinction that was drawn between the two categories in previous competitions.

### **How to enter:**

1. Write your original piece in 500 words or fewer.
2. Email your work and completed entry form to [competitions@creativeroyston.org](mailto:competitions@creativeroyston.org)
3. All entries must include all information requested on the entry form including: a) Your name and, if under 18, your age on 16th August 2020 b) Your home address, email and telephone number (please note these should be that of an 18+ adult and will not be shared outside of the Creative Royston committee).
4. The deadline for submissions is Sunday 16th August 2020. Any submissions received after this date will not be considered.

### **Competition Rules:**

1. Entry to this competition is open to residents of Royston and surrounding villages. Proof of age, identity and eligibility may be requested prior to the award of prizes.
2. The competition is not open to relatives of Creative Royston committee members or of any person closely connected with the competition e.g. judges.
3. All stories should be submitted in English.

4. Entries should be no more than 500 words in length and submitted via email to [competitions@creativeroyston.org](mailto:competitions@creativeroyston.org) with the story attached in two files – one Microsoft Word file and one .pdf.
5. For entrants who are under 18, entries must be made by an adult aged 18+ on their behalf. The adult may be the entrant's parent, guardian or teacher and must read and agree to these rules on the entrant's behalf and provide their name on the entry form. The adult must provide their own contact and personal details and not those of the under-18 entrant.
6. For the shortlisted entries, if permission to enter was given by a teacher, Creative Royston will contact the teacher and ask for confirmation of permission from the entrant's parent or guardian.
7. The personal details provided will be used for the purposes of administering the competition and to send general updates as to the progress of the competition by email. This information will not be used for any other purpose unless permission is given on the entry form.
8. Entry closes on Sunday 16th August 2020 and submissions received beyond that date will not be considered.
9. Only one entry per person is permitted, and the story must be wholly written by the entrant only and not by more than one person. If more than one entry is submitted, only the entrant's first submission will be considered.
10. Entries must be an original piece of writing and must not infringe the rights of any other party. The judges will have complete discretion to decide whether an entry infringes this rule and disqualify it without providing any further explanation.
11. Judges may provide feedback to Creative Royston on any entries if they so wish to be passed onto the author, or the adult responsible for their entry if under 18, at the discretion of Creative Royston.
12. Judges would be expected to provide some feedback to Creative Royston for the winning entries to justify their decision which may be published in part (e.g. for marketing of future competitions) or whole at the discretion of Creative Royston.
13. Entrants, or the adult responsible for their entry if under 18, agree not to request feedback not freely provided e.g. an explanation as to why their entry did not win a prize.
14. As the stories will be published locally it is important that entrants do not include any identifying personal details and real names of living or recently deceased people must not be included in the title or body of the story.
15. Entries must be suitable for publication by Creative Royston and to be read by audiences of all ages.

16. Entrants retain the copyright in their entries but grant Creative Royston permission to publish and display them during the Festival, and afterwards on the Creative Royston website and social media in part or whole.

17. Prizes in the form of £50 book vouchers will be awarded to the winners in each age group during the festival. Additional book vouchers of a lesser value may be awarded to 'deserving' entries as decided by the judges.

18. The judges' decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into.

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