



Royston Arts Festival 2022

Poetry Competition

Terms and Conditions of entry

Creative Royston is looking for original poetry from poets in three age groups, 11 and under, 12-18, and 19+ in 40 lines or fewer. If you can connect your poem in some way to the Royston Arts Festival 2022 theme, 'Circle of Life', that would be appreciated but it is not essential and will not form part of the criteria for judging.

J.S.Watts and Jude Simpson, two successful and well-known local poets, will judge the entries and the winners in each age group will be announced at the start of the festival and made available to read online.

How to enter:

1. One entry only per person. Write your original piece in 40 lines or fewer not including the title or any line breaks between verses.
2. Email your work and completed entry form for your age group to poetry@creativeroyston.org
3. All entries must include all information requested on the entry form including: a) your name and, if under 18, your age, and b) your home address, email and telephone number. (Please note these should be that of an 18+ adult and will not be shared beyond the organisers unless specific permission is given on the entry form.)
4. Entry is FREE and the deadline for submissions is **Sunday 14th August 2022 by 11.59pm**. Any submissions received after this time will not be considered.

Competition Rules:

1. One entry per person. 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 Creative Royston organisers, or their relatives, or any person closely connected with the competition e.g. judges.
3. All poems should be written in English.

4. Entries should be no more than 40 lines in length (not including the title or any line breaks between verses) and submitted via email, together with the appropriate entry form, to poetry@creativeroyston.org with the poem attached in a Microsoft Word file. If you do not have Microsoft Word please use a compatible file e.g. Open Office Writer or a pdf containing copiable text.
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, the organisers 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. Only one entry per person is permitted, and the poem must be wholly written by the entrant and not by more than one person. If more than one entry is submitted, only the entrant's first submission will be considered.
9. 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.
10. Judges may provide feedback to the organisers 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 the organisers.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. As the poems will be published locally it is important that entrants do not include any identifying personal details in the title or body of the poem and real names of living or recently deceased people must not be included.
14. Entries must be suitable for publication by Creative Royston and to be read by audiences of all ages.

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

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

17. The judges, in consultation with Creative Royston, retain the right not to award any prizes in any particular category e.g. if there are few entries and the judges do not feel there is sufficient merit in any to award a prize.

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