



Birmingham Stories ‘Heroes’ Story Writing Competition 2020 – Consent form

Please provide your contact details:

Name (of parent / guardian) _____

Address _____

Email address _____

Name of the entrant _____

Age of the entrant _____

Please specify the gender of your child: Female / Male / Other / Prefer not to say

Please confirm:

- I have talked to my child about the submission, they are happy to take part and I give parental consent for my child to take part in the competition. **Yes / No**
- I confirm the story is an original story written by the entrant (child) specified above. **Yes / No**
- If my child is among the winners of the competition, I give permission on behalf of my child for the story and the name of my child to be published on the Birmingham Stories and the University of Birmingham webpages **Yes / No**
- I agree for the story to be stored in an anonymized textual database at the University of Birmingham and the text to be used for research purposes. This research will be into linguistic and textual phenomena of stories, and specifically into the creation of fictional characters. If you are interested in more detail please contact Professor Michaela Mahlberg m.a.mahlberg@bham.ac.uk. **Yes / No**
- I have read and agree to the Birmingham Stories ‘Heroes’ Story Writing Competition 2020 rules. **Yes / No**

Thank you for your submission! We are looking forward to reading it!

Birmingham Stories ‘Heroes’ Story Writing Competition 2020 - Rules

1. The competition is organised jointly by the University of Birmingham and the National Literacy Trust.
2. All entries must be in English.
3. Entry to this competition is open to persons who will be aged 9 to 14 years on Friday 4 December, 2020. Entries must be submitted by an adult (parent or guardian) on behalf of the child. This adult must be able to give parental consent.
4. To enter the competition, participants will write a fictional short story. The length of the story must be between 500 to 750 words.
5. The entries will be submitted via an online submission system, schools can also do batch submission via email, details on submission can be found at <https://literacytrust.org.uk/communities/birmingham/families/story-writing-competition/>.
6. The format of the entry must be a text document (not pdf). For school batch submissions via email, for each entrant the file name needs to start with the name of the school, followed by name of entrant. Each submission must be accompanied by a consent form.
7. The parent / guardian submitting the story on behalf of the entrant will be asked to provide the entrant’s gender and age. The parent /guardian will also provide contact details for the purpose of contacting the winner.
8. The parent / guardian submitting the entrant’s story will be required to approve the entry and agree to these competition rules on behalf of the entrant. The parent / guardian must also provide their own contact details.
9. Entries can be submitted until 12 noon on Friday 4 December, 2020.
10. Only one story per entrant is permitted. The story must be an original piece of work and be wholly written by the entrant. It must reflect the theme of the competition as stated in the competition challenge. The stories must be single-authored.
11. Entries must not contain obscene, defamatory, offensive or otherwise unsuitable material. The organisers reserve the right to disqualify such entries.
12. Entrants retain the copyright in their entries. Entrants will be asked to grant a perpetual non-exclusive royalty-free licence to store the entry in a university research database for research purposes. Any research conducted and subsequently published will use anonymized data with only gender and age identifying the stories. Entrants will be further asked to grant permission to publish winning stories online. This licence will be deemed to include all the necessary rights and permissions to enable use as described above, to fulfil the prizes and to complete the administration of this competition.
13. Entries can be withdrawn within 7 days of submission by contacting birminghamstories@literacytrust.org.uk
14. Entries will be judged on the following criteria: originality, relation to the challenge theme, characterisation, plot, language, overall artistic impression and enjoyment
15. The Birmingham Stories Student Literacy Champions will support the shortlisting of entries. A panel of experts, including the writer Sufiya Ahmed, will choose the overall winner from the shortlist.
16. Prizes, as specified in the challenge, will be awarded to winners. Winners will be contacted by 18 December 2020.
17. The organisers reserve the right to amend these rules or cancel the competition at any stage.