

Farpais Sgrìobhaidh Às an Tobar 2019

Riaghailtean Farpais Oigridh

Uist Book Festival Open Writing Competition 2019

Junior Competition Rules

Introduction

The Uist Book Festival exists to support the continuing development of the artistic and creative traditions of Uist and Benbecula. The Festival takes place from 18-24 November 2019, during the Scottish Book Trust's Book Week Scotland. The Uist Book Festival aims to be informal, friendly and inclusive, for early or developing readers and writers or the occasional or most avid bookworms among us.

The competition is open to entries relating to life in Uist and Benbecula. There are separate classes for Primary 1-3, Primary 4-7 and Secondary School entries. Entries are welcome in Gàidhlig or in English.

There is a single theme under which entries for the 2019 competition should be made, and this is 'Blether'. We welcome entries that feature your characters having a good blether, regardless of how you choose to capture that on the page.

Key dates for all classes:

- Competition closing date, by which all entries must be received: 14 October 2019 (4.00 pm)
- Winners notified directly on: 8th November 2019
- Public announcement made on the Uist Book Festival website on: 11th November 2019
- Prize-giving event on: 21st November 2019

2019 junior competition

- Competition classes:
 - Primary 1-3: draw a picture of your favourite book and write a few words about it
 - Primary 4-7: write a short story of up to 500 words, or a piece of poetry
 - Secondary School: write a short story of up to 500 words, or a piece of poetry
- Single Gàidhlig/English competition class for Primary 1-3. Separate Gàidhlig and English language competition classes for Primary 4-7 entries and for Secondary School entries.
- £20 book voucher for winning entries in each age group and language stream (5 in all)
- Judges:
 - Primary 1-3 picture: Neil MacDonald
 - Primary 4-7 Gàidhlig poetry/prose: Neil MacDonald
 - Primary 4-7 English poetry/prose: Susan Jones
 - Secondary English poetry/prose: Susan Jones
 - Secondary Gàidhlig poetry/prose: Liam Crouse
- No entry fee

A 'blether' means having a chat with someone. It can be about anything you want. It can be about telling someone about something that is important to you – or it can be you listening while someone tells you about what is important to them.

You can have a blether with someone at school (a friend or a teacher, in the classroom or in the playground); in the home (with a friend, or a brother or sister, or parent or other older relative); and you can have a blether, kind of, with a pop star, sports star or even an international (super)hero. They might want you to sing in their group, play in their team or help them take on and defeat evil somewhere in the universe.

What did you say while you were having that blether? What about the person you were blethering with – did they hear you? What happened next and how did things change?

We'd like you to tell us about a blether you've had with someone. You can write a short story about it or a piece of poetry. If you're a bit younger (if you're in a primary class at school), you can paint us a picture of a book you liked. In that book you liked, how did everyone talk to each other?

A blether can be real, or you can make it-up; it can be about you – or it can be about someone else entirely. In telling us about it, or painting us your picture, be as imaginative and as colourful as you dare! Everyone has a good blether in them...

For some examples of poems and stories featuring a blether, see the Scottish Book Trust website:

<https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/book-week-scotland/read-blether-stories>

All competition rules:

1. Entries must be your own original and unaided work.
2. All entries must fall within the theme and openness criteria of the Uist Book Festival Open Writing Competition.
3. You may submit only one entry in each class. However, you may submit an entry in more than one class.
4. The junior competition classes are: Primary 1-3; Primary 4-7; Secondary School. In all classes other than Primary 1-3, there will be separate, but equal, streams for Gàidhlig and English entries. For Primary 1-3, entries will be accepted in either Gàidhlig or English.
5. There is a 500-word limit on the short story competition but, again, there is no limit on the number of lines of poetry that may be entered.
6. Judging of competition entries is fair and unbiased, and all entries will be read and judged anonymously. Your name or address must not appear anywhere on your entry; nor therefore must there be any other content marks that could identify you as the author of the work.
7. Each entry must be accompanied by a completed competition entry form. The entry form will be separated from your work after the entry has been accepted. Entry forms can be downloaded from the competition website and available at the competition address; and can be typed or handwritten.
8. For all competition classes, entries must be delivered to the competition address, which is: Cothrom Ltd, Ormiclate, South Uist HS8 5SB (telephone: 01878 700910). Entries can also be e-mailed to enquiries@cothrom.net. If posting, this is at your own risk and you must allow sufficient time for posting prior to the competition closing date. There is no facility to make entries via the competition website.
9. An entry is accepted at the point it is received. No changes can be made to an entry after it has been accepted.
10. Please pay careful attention to the key dates of the Uist Book Festival Open Writing competition.
11. Copyright for work entered into the Uist Book Festival Open Writing Competition remains with the authors, but Uist Book Festival reserves the right to publish the winning and highly commended entries, online or in print, for one year after the winners have been notified. We also reserve the right to use any sound or video recordings of work for promotional use.
12. We are unable to return entries, although these can be collected from the competition address after the competition has closed. Uncollected work will be destroyed after one month.
13. Entries that do not meet the rules of the competition will be disqualified. Note that the competition organisers cannot enter into any correspondence about the acceptance of entries.
14. Decisions made by the judges regarding the winning entries are final.
15. Prizes may be withheld or altered if, in the opinion of the judge, we receive no outstanding entries, or insufficient entries.
16. The competition organisers can be contacted via the Uist Book Festival website (www.uistbookfestival.org).
17. There will be a prize-giving ceremony at the Uist Book Festival 2019. Travel to this event will be at each prize winner's own expense.
18. By submitting an entry, you are agreeing to the competition rules.

Entry fees will go towards the Competition prize fund and in furtherance of the aims of the Uist Book Festival and of the communities of Uist and Benbecula.

Uist Book Festival Junior Competition 2019 Entry form

Name of entrant: _____

Title of picture/poem/story: _____

Contact details for teacher/parent/guardian (as applicable), preferably email address:

Class for which entry is made (please circle):

Class	Gàidhlig	English
Primary 1-3	Code: J1	
Primary 4-7	Code: J2G	Code: J2E
Secondary School	Code: J3G	Code: J3E
Adult poetry	Code: A1G	Code: A1E
Adult short story	Code: A2G	Code: A2E

Accurate word count of entry (for short story competition entries only): _____

Declaration: In submitting my entry, I hereby declare that this is my original, unaided work and that it complies with the rules of the competition

Signed: _____

For office use: