

# 2020



# CREATIVE WRITING

# COMPETITION

## WHAT IS THE RDA CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION?

The RDA Creative Writing Competition is now in its **fourth** year and growing in popularity each time it is held!

As in previous years, we are offering the three classes of POEM, LETTER or SHORT STORY and the theme for each class is simply 'RDA.'

Perhaps you have a story to tell of an exciting experience you've had whilst at your RDA Group... or you've been inspired by your favourite horse or pony to write a poem about them? The only limit is your imagination...and anything goes!

The focus should be on your thoughts, imagination and the content – we don't mind at all how you present your work. We just want you to be able express yourself in a way that is accessible to you.

## WHO CAN ENTER?

The RDA Creative Writing Competition is open to all RDA participants (riders, carriage drivers and vaulters), of all ages and abilities. **We can't accept entries from volunteers, unfortunately, unless they are also current RDA participants.** Classes are open to individual entrants only. You may enter more than one class if you wish, but only one entry per participant, per class will be accepted.

## HOW CAN PIECES OF WRITING BE ENTERED?

Entries can be written at any time, whenever inspiration strikes! The competition is also a great opportunity to involve families, schools/ colleges\* or care centres too, as participants are welcome to create their entries at any time; in RDA sessions, in the classroom or at home. Pieces of writing can be submitted in any format (e.g. computer-printed, pencil, pen or typewriter copy). Braille entries can be submitted but please also supply a printed transcription. Printed or drawn Makaton symbols can be used. Entries in languages other than English are encouraged, too, but please provide an English translation to assist the judges.

*\*This can be a great way to evidence and support PSHE, literacy and language achievement in the education centre environment.*

## HOW MUCH WILL IT COST TO ENTER?

Entry is completely **FREE!** Simply send all entries with a fully-completed entry form (one form per entry) by **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020.** There will be no regional rounds of judging.

Please ensure that you keep your own copies of each entry safely, as we will be unable to return any work sent in to National Office. RDA National Office cannot be held responsible for any entries

not received in time, lost, or damaged. All entries are sent entirely at the entrants' own risk. Late entries cannot be accepted.

### **HOW AND WHEN WILL ENTRIES BE JUDGED?**

Entries may or may not be accompanied with illustrations or decoration, however they will purely be judged on their written content by the judges.

Each entry will be considered on its own merit; the judge will be looking for **specific relevance and reference to RDA**, along with charm, imagination and appeal - not just simply an equestrian theme.

The closing date for receipt of entries at National Office will be **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020** and the winners will be announced as soon as possible afterwards, in **March 2020**.

### **WHICH CLASSES CAN BE ENTERED THIS YEAR?**

All classes are open to participants of any age and ability, and all entries will be judged together in each class.

#### **CLASS 1: A POEM ABOUT RDA**

Your poem doesn't necessarily have to rhyme, but must have an RDA theme. Maximum 350 words. Open to all ages/ abilities - all entries will receive a rosette and congratulations letter!

**FIRST PRIZE: £20.00 Amazon voucher and special winner's rosette**

#### **CLASS 2: A LETTER ABOUT RDA**

Perhaps to someone special at RDA telling them about an achievement that you or someone else has had? Or maybe a letter thanking your favourite volunteer...or horse? Maximum 500 words. Open to all ages/ abilities – all entries will receive a rosette and congratulations letter!

**FIRST PRIZE: £20.00 Amazon voucher and special winner's rosette**

#### **CLASS 3: A SHORT RDA STORY ABOUT RDA**

It could be fact or fiction, but aim to inspire, entertain and amaze! You can be as imaginative or creative as you like, but make sure you don't go over the limit of 500 words. Open to all ages/ abilities - all entries will receive a rosette and congratulations letter!

**FIRST PRIZE: £20.00 Amazon voucher and special winner's rosette**

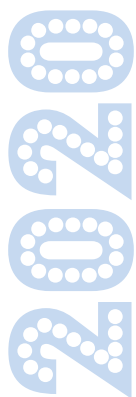
RDA is extremely grateful for the continued generous sponsorship of this competition by Life with Art

The logo for 'LifewithArt' is written in a casual, hand-drawn style using grey ink. The letters are slightly irregular and connected, giving it a personal and artistic feel.

[www.lifewithart.co.uk](http://www.lifewithart.co.uk)

#### ***DATA PROTECTION/ PRIVACY***

RDA reserves the right to use any entries received for future promotion and publicity. If you would prefer to remain anonymous, please tick the box clearly at the bottom of the attached entry form.



# Creative Writing Competition

## ENTRY FORM

Please complete clearly in **BLOCK CAPITALS**, or tick the appropriate box.

Completed forms, along with competition entries, will need to be sent to Marisa Bretherton-Mackay at RDA National Office by **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

**ENTRY IS COMPLETELY FREE OF CHARGE**

<b>RDA Group</b>		<b>RDA Region</b>	
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### Correspondent Details

	<b>Title</b>	<b>Forename</b>	<b>Surname</b>
<b>Name</b>			
<b>Address</b>			
<b>Postcode</b>		<b>Email</b>	
<b>Telephone</b>		<b>Mobile</b>	

<b>Entry Title</b>			
<b>Writer's Name</b>	<b>Forename/s</b>	<b>Surname</b>	

### Category Details (please tick one only)



<b>CLASS 1</b>	An RDA Poem – maximum 350 words, must have an RDA theme	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>CLASS 2</b>	A Letter – maximum 500 words, must have an RDA theme	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>CLASS 3</b>	A Short RDA Story - maximum 500 words, must have an RDA theme	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please send all entries (only one entry per participant, per class please) with a **fully-completed entry form for each entry** to Marisa Bretherton-Mackay at RDA National Office, Lowlands Equestrian Centre, Old Warwick Road, Shrewley, Warwickshire CV35 7AX (or email the completed entry form and the competition entry itself to **marisa@rda.org.uk**) by the closing date of **FRIDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2020**. There will be no regional judging. **Entry is free of charge.**

Please ensure that you keep your own copies of each entry safely, as we will be unable to return any entries sent in to National Office. RDA National Office cannot be held responsible for any entries not received in time, lost, or damaged. All entries are sent entirely at the entrants' own risk. **Late entries cannot be accepted.**

**RDAUK reserves the right to use entries received for promotion and publicity, including on social media. Entry into the competition is deemed acceptance of this.**

**If the writer's name is NOT to be used in the public domain, please tick the box**

Please note that any personal contact information you have provided will only be used in correspondence directly related to this competition and will not be retained afterwards.