

## 2018 Duffield Arts Festival Short Story Competition – rules



1. The competition is organised by Duffield Arts Festival.
2. Entry to this competition is open to people who **live, work or go to school in Duffield**. The children or close relatives of the festival organisers and competition judges may not enter. Proof of age, identity and eligibility may be requested.
3. Entry will be in four age categories – ages **7 and under**, ages **8 to 10**, ages **11 to 14** and **ages 15 and over (including adults)**. Age as on the closing date of 22 June 2018.
4. To enter, you must write an original, fictional short story with the title '**light and shade**' that is no more than **500 words in length**. If you are **aged 7 and under**, your story must be no more than **300 words in length**.
5. The story must be in English, **your own work**, and not a translation or reimagining of the work of another writer – this means that you cannot 'borrow' ideas, phrases or characters from other people's stories. It must be an original piece of fiction and not an account of real events – either historical or current. However, your story can feature well known public figures from present day or from history (like Wayne Rooney or Charles Darwin) or take place in historical eras (such as the English Civil War) or use real-life experiences as a creative springboard, as long as the story is fictional. Your story must not have been previously published or self-published, in print or online, or have won a prize in another competition.
6. You can submit a **handwritten or typed story**. It should be clear, easy to read and double-spaced (that is, you should allow space between each line of writing). Your name, address or other personal details should **not appear** on the pieces of paper where the story is written. At the end of the story you should write the **word count (the number of words used)**.
7. You must include a **cover sheet** on top of your story. On the cover sheet, you must PRINT:
  - name, age (on 22 June 2018), address and a contact telephone number (and an email address if possible)
  - if appropriate, name of school and teacher's name or your place of work in Duffield.
  - write that you agree to the competition rules and sign your name - or if under 14, a parental signature is required
  - PLEASE STAPLE OR PAPERCLIP THE COVER TO YOUR STORY SHEET.
8. Your entry should be dropped off in one of the specially marked 'Duffield Arts Festival short story competition' **boxes** on or before **22 June 2018**. The boxes will be in the following places:
  - Duffield Library
  - Meadows School library
  - William Gilbert School library
  - Ecclesbourne School library
  - Duffield News
  - Meadow Vale Stores.
9. The stories **cannot be returned**, so please make a copy of your story before you submit it.



10. After the closing date of 22 June 2018, a panel of judges will choose the **1st, 2nd and 3rd best short story in each age category**. The judges' decision is final. Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

- Originality
- Plot
- Characterisation
- Language
- Enjoyment.

11. The winning stories in each age category will be **announced** during the Duffield Arts Festival, on **21 September 2018**. The competition organisers will make every effort to contact the winners beforehand.

12. Unfortunately the competition organisers will **not** be able to contact other people who have entered or give them feedback about their story.

13. By entering the competition, you keep your copyright but you give **permission** to Duffield Arts Festival to publish the story, broadcast the story (across all media) and post the story online.

14. Duffield Arts Festival and the competition organisers reserve the right to disqualify any entry that breaks any of these rules.

15. Duffield Arts Festival and the competition organisers reserve the right to amend these rules or cancel this competition at any stage, if they believe it is necessary or if circumstances arise outside of their control.