

NORWICH WRITERS' CIRCLE
2011/12 PROGRAMME - COMPETITION GUIDELINES

COMPETITION ONE

1. Horror Story, based on a Christmas present. 2,000 words maximum.

Adjudicated by Joseph Freeman on 6th December 2011
Speaking 4th October 2011
Closing Date 1st November 2011

COMPETITION TWO

2. Poem – on the theme of ‘Journeys’, maximum 40 lines.

Heidi has provided some ideas to get us thinking...

- Write a piece about a journey the person in their poem would love to make.
- Write about a real journey, with as much detail as possible - take us there.
- A journey somewhere imaginary - space for example, or a country made of chocolate (mmmm.....)
- A journey into the past or the future.
- A journey in someone else's shoes - perhaps a daily commute for a character they invent - do they take the train/cycle/walk/drive to work - what do they see and think about, who do they meet on the way?
- A pilgrimage - perhaps to a religious place, or to see a favourite band, or where your parents met/your partner grew up.
- A journey in wartime - to the front, as an evacuee, to find a lost love or relative.
- A charity trek, run or ‘journey’ through illness.
- Travelling to or from the Olympics - as a spectator, athlete or someone employed to do something - the person that keeps the tracks clear, a referee...
- A ‘journey’ where the person in the poem learns or discovers something - a journey into knowledge.

Adjudicated by Heidi Williamson on 7th February 2012
Speaking 18th October 2011
Closing Date 13th December 2011

COMPETITION THREE

3. A Tall Tale To Tell, (for The Colin Sutton Cup for Humour)

Andrew says, “Write a 1,000 word (no minimum) humorous tall tale, that is written primarily to be read aloud. The aim is thus for the writer to enable the listener to really picture the settings, characters and events, and to have their senses ‘appealed to’ through the use of descriptive and evocative language. Although the work is to be a fictional piece, it can, of course, be based upon real events and people if desired.”

Adjudicated by Andrew Brammer on 20th March 2012
Speaking 17th January 2012
Closing Date 21st February 2012

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COMPETITION FOUR

4. Short Story, Fantasy or Science Fiction

- Typed, double-spaced, single side, A4 page
- note the word count at the top right-hand side
- Start 2/3 of the way down the first page
- put a one-word 'tag' from your title (separated by a slash) and the page number in the header
- 1,000 words maximum

Adjudicated by Anne Potter on 15th May 2012
Speaking 6th March 2012
Closing Date 3rd April 2012

COMPETITION FIVE

5. Charles Dickens-themed Story, 1,500 words maximum for The Cooper Prize

Please try one of the following:

1. Compose a sketch/study of a "contemporary" Dickens character.

This may be done through narrative or dialogue (indeed in any way), perhaps in relation to other characters.

2. Write the opening sequence of a novel, set in any era, inspired by Dickens' work.

This needn't specifically echo the opening of a Dickens novel.

3. Write a scene from within an imagined novel, inspired by Dickens' work.

4. Fictionalise a scene or sequence depicting the experiences and impressions of a young boy or girl, allowed to roam the streets of a major contemporary city, with reference to some of Dickens' social and other concerns.

5. Write any piece (any form/style) of your own choosing, inspired by or adapted from a passage from one of Dickens' novels.

Adjudicated by Peter Mievile on 19th June 2012
Speaking 3rd April 2012
Closing Date 15th May 2012