

Young Norfolk Writing Competition 2019 launches today

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The search is on for the best young writers in Norfolk. The popular annual competition celebrates poetry, lyrics, fiction, non-fiction, graphic novels and scriptwriting and is open to 11 - 18 year olds living or studying in Norfolk.

The competition is a collaboration between the National Centre for Writing based in Dragon Hall, Norwich, the Young Norfolk Arts Trust and is supported by Norfolk County Council. It builds on the success of previous years in which over 350 young people have participated from over 50 schools.

The winners receive professional mentoring to help take their writing forward, publication on the NCW website plus a bookish goody bag!

Hannah Garrard, Learning and Participation Programme Manager, National Centre for Writing says:

‘We’re delighted to be partnering with Young Norfolk Arts Trust and have the support once again of Norfolk County Council to celebrate the creativity and passion of Norfolk’s young writers and to offer this exciting opportunity for their brilliant work to be read and heard.’

Robert Rickard, 14 – 19 Adviser, Norfolk County Council says:

“We are delighted to be involved in this annual competition: such an inclusive way of promoting the very best young people’s writing right across the County, by bringing together all our schools and colleges, and the National Centre for Writing.

We are lucky indeed to have this resource on our doorstep, and all the more so that our colleagues there work so proactively with us to make sure as many young people as possible enter each year's competition, AND attend the workshops and events that will help develop their confidence further."

Lucy Farrant, Director of the Young Norfolk Arts Trust says:

"We're really excited to announce the launch of the 2019 Young Norfolk Writing Competition. We hope to encourage writing in all its forms and we know that there is a wealth of young writing talent in this County of stories."

The competition is free to enter and closes on 3 June 2019. Entries may be written, recorded or in graphic story format. For submission details please see

www.nationalcentreforwriting.org.uk

Notes to Editors:

1. About National Centre for Writing

The **National Centre for Writing** (NCW) is a place of discovery, exchange, ideas and learning for writers, literary translators and readers. Based in the restored and extended 15th century Dragon Hall in the heart of England's first UNESCO City of Literature, it explores how writing can inspire and change the world we live in. Its year round programme of events, festivals and courses reaches over 14,000 people a year with an additional 110,000 engaged online. Through its learning and participation programme it supports 20,000 young people a year and has a commitment to working with those in the most disadvantaged areas. NCW's patrons include Margaret Atwood, JM Coetzee, Kei Miller and Elif Shafak.

2. For comment and photos contact Alice Kent, Communications Director at alice.kent@writerscentrenorwich.org.uk / 01603 877177 OR Joshua Wicks, Norfolk County Council on 01603 215177
3. Young Norfolk Arts Trust celebrate and support the creativity of all young people in Norfolk, throughout the year, and during the Young Norfolk Arts Festival www.ynaf.org.uk