

Rotary **YOUNG WRITER** COMPETITION

2019

Information pack



**YOUTH  
COMPETITIONS**

[rotarygbi.org](http://rotarygbi.org)

Rotary  
Great Britain & Ireland



# Information Pack for 2019 – 2020

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# Information Pack for 2018 – 2019

## THEME – ‘CONNECTIONS’

### Introduction

This National Young Writer Competition is a well established and successful competition promoted by Rotary International in Britain and Ireland (RGI).

It is a three-stage competition designed to support and encourage development of writing skills.

### Aims

This competition aims to encourage young people to:

- use their writing skills
- write with imagination and creativity

### Who can take part?

The competition is open to all schools and college communities including those that are home educated and any other young peoples' community organisations, for example, community RotaKids, community Interact, Scout Groups, Girl Guides.

The three age groups are:

Junior	7 to 10 years old
Intermediate	11 to 13 years old
Senior	14 to 17 years old

Entrants must not be above the age parameters for each group on **31 August 2019**.

With the age qualifying date of 31st August 2019, it should be noted that some junior entrants may be 11, intermediate entrants may be 14 and some senior entrants may be 18 at the time of some or all the stage competitions i.e. a competitor who may be 17 on 31st August but turns 18 on 1<sup>st</sup> September is permitted to enter. **Competitors must include their date of birth on the entry form.**

For entrants with motor control difficulties, an amanuensis may be used to record the entrant's work to paper.

**Students should enter the competition organised by the local Rotary club through their respective group as detailed above.**

Competitors, schools, colleges, and organisations may participate in a club or district competition that is outside of their geographical boundary but may compete in only one club or district competition.

## The Three Stages of the Competition

### Local Heats

Organised by local Rotary clubs. Age group winners of local heats are entered into a district competition.

Local Rotary clubs may be found by using the club finder facility in the dialogue box "Find My Nearest Club" at the top left-and corner of the Home Page of the Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland website [www.rotarygbi.org/](http://www.rotarygbi.org/)

### District Finals

Organised by Rotary districts between January and February. The winners of each are entered into the national final.

### National Final

Organised by Rotary. One entry per age group per district may be submitted by **Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020** to the organiser who can be contacted at <mailto:young-writer@rotarygbi.org>.

**The dates for Local Heats and district competitions will be determined locally. Interested parties should check dates with their local Rotary club.**

## Competition Guidelines

### Task

To produce a written or typed story in prose entitled, '**Connections**'. The written entry could be fiction or non-fiction, a story or a poem, as long as the piece relates to the theme.

***An A4 page or up to 500 hundred words is a suggested suitable submission.***

Entries should be sent to the Stage organiser by the closing date.

Entries may not be returned unless specifically requested.

### Judges

Judges with appropriate skills, appointed by Rotary, will apply the judging criteria below.

### Judging Criteria

Judges will consider imagination relative to the subject; the ability to engage interest and to be consistent in the power of argument.

The judges will not enter into any discussion or correspondence regarding their decision; their decision will be final and not subject to any appeal.

### Prizes

At all stages of the competition, competitors will receive a certificate of participation.

At the National Final, the winners will receive a vocational experience such as working in a newspaper or publishing environment with a professional practitioner.

## How to enter

To enter a local heat, interested parties should contact their local Rotary club. In case of difficulty interested parties should contact the Rotary Youth Competition Co-Ordinator, Bill Campbell [young-writer@rotarygbi.org](mailto:young-writer@rotarygbi.org) for assistance.

Entrants are required to complete an entry form, available from your local Rotary club, and submit it with their text, to the stage organiser at the time specified by the stage organiser.

## Youth Competitions

The Young Writer competition is one of eleven competitions for young people organised by Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland. Among the others are Young Artist, Young Chef, Youth Debate, Young Environmentalist, Young Filmmaker, Young Musician, Young Photographer, Young Citizens Awards and the Technology Tournaments.

To find out more about these competitions and other opportunities for young people, please contact your local Rotary Club or visit [www.rotarygbi.org](http://www.rotarygbi.org).

## Working with Children

Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland has adopted this statement of policy in working with children, the vulnerable and those with disability.

*The needs and rights of the child, the elderly, the vulnerable and those with disability take priority. It is the duty of every Rotarian to safeguard to the best of their ability, the welfare of and prevent the physical, sexual or emotional abuse and neglect of all children, the elderly, persons with disability or otherwise vulnerable persons with whom they come into contact during their Rotarian duties.*