



**Rotary International  
in Great Britain and  
Ireland**



**YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES**

# **Rotary Young Writer 2010**

**Rules and Guidelines for Competitions leading to  
the RIBI Final**

Issued: August 2009

# RULES FOR RIBI ROTARY YOUNG WRITER 2010

## 1. Objectives

This competition provides an opportunity for Rotary to encourage excellence in writing among children in their local community. The competition aims to provide a mechanism for young people to participate, using their writing skills, imagination and creativity. It can be targeted at schools and youth groups.

## 2. Entrants

This is a free competition for young people and is set on three levels, with ages to be taken on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009.

Entries may be either prose or poetry.

- |                 |                  |                         |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| a. Junior       | 7 – 10 year old  | – maximum words is 500  |
| b. Intermediate | 11 – 13 year old | – maximum words is 800  |
| c. Senior       | 14 – 17 year old | – maximum words is 1600 |

## 3. Competition

The theme for 2010 is “**The Environment**”, with students choosing their own topic to work on. Entries should not exceed the number of words above for prose and 400 for poetry.

All entries must be received by the Rotary Club “Young Writer” coordinator by the end of February accompanied by a completed entry form, which is attached below or can be downloaded from the RIBI website.

## 4. Format

Entry forms require certification from a parent, guardian, or teacher that the entry is exclusively the entrant’s own work. Parental consent is needed if a student is under 18.

Judging will be done by a panel of three, with at least one independent person; perhaps an author, teacher, journalist or similar and for the Club competition the Club President. For the RIBI Final, all judges will be independent and have relevant experience.

Entries will be judged on:-

- Use of Language
- Vocabulary
- Consistency of subject/story
- Interest
- Ability to complete work in the required number of words

## 5. Stages in the Competition

It is expected there will be three stages in the Rotary Young Writer Competition.

1. The Club Competition, to be completed by **31<sup>st</sup> March 2009** and the winner in each age category sent to the District Organiser by that date.

2. The District Competition, to be completed by **30<sup>th</sup> April 2009** and the winner in each age category sent to the RIBI Organiser by 1<sup>st</sup> May. Each Rotary Club may submit **one** Prose and **one** Poetry entry for each of the 3 age groups. Entries may be individually chosen or be the winners of Club Competitions. All unsuccessful entries should be returned to the individual Clubs.

3. The RIBI Final for all Districts in RIBI who wish to enter. The winner will be announced by the end of **June 2010**. Each District may submit **one** Prose and **one** Poetry entry for each of the 3 age groups. Entries may be individually chosen or be the winners of District Competitions. All unsuccessful entries will be returned to the Districts.

**Please note: Any entry for the RIBI Final MUST reach the RIBI organiser by 1<sup>st</sup> May 2010**

## 6. Uniformity of Procedure

It is hoped that in the interests of uniformity, that the District stages of the competition will be run along similar lines. However, within the confines of the specified Theme, they may wish to include a sub-title to develop the theme; particularly for the younger age groups.

All decisions of the judges are final.

The competition is open to all including to Rotarian families.

Please note: For the RIBI Competition a District may only enter one photograph in each age category.

## 7. Prizes

At **Club level** it is recommended that Certificates should be awarded to the winners in each age bracket and perhaps a trophy for the winner in each age bracket to keep.

At **District level** it is hoped that District Certificates should be awarded to winners in each category and perhaps a District trophy for the winner to keep.

Suggested Prizes:-

Winner	£50 (cheque or book token)
Second	£40 (cheque or book token)
Third	£30 (cheque or book token)

For the RIBI Final, all entrants will receive a Certificate with winners being recognised as such. A trophy, to be passed on each year will be awarded, along with a small financial prize.

## 8. Guidance Notes

1. A Rotary Club should contact the schools in October/November, ideally the English teacher, or Head teacher.
2. Provide details of competition, posters, flyers etc. closing date, and where entries should be sent to.
3. Provide appropriate prizes.
4. Set deadline for receipt of entries to Club competition – ideally February 28th.
5. Club judging should be completed by March 31<sup>st</sup> and winners notified.
6. Winning entries should be forwarded to District by end of March.
7. Child Protection guidelines and risk assessment procedures should be followed.
8. Districts should designate one person on the Youth Opportunities committee to head up this competition.

## **9. Forms**

A copy of the entry form is attached and must accompany each entry submitted

Entry forms require certification from a parent, guardian, or teacher that the entry is exclusively the entrant's own work. Parental consent needed if student is under 18.



# ROTARY YOUNG WRITER ENTRY FORM 2010

Name of Entrant .....

Address .....

Date of Birth .....

Age on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009 .....

Name of School .....

This work is certified as being the entrant's own work by: .....

Position or Title: .....

It is a condition of entry that Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland (RIBI) shall have the right to reproduce any entry without fee, unless objection is made in writing on the entry form.

The winning essay or poetry will remain the property of the author. However, the article may be displayed, possibly included in Rotary Today magazine and shown on the RIBI web site stating the winner's age group.

We have read and agree to abide by the rules for the Young Writer Competition.

Signature of entrant .....

Signature of Parent, Guardian or Carer.....

Date .....