



# Worchester Competitive Arts Festival

## ORIGINAL WORK Syllabus

We are pleased to offer great opportunities for anyone who wants to write stories, poems or plays or who composes music or songs. The open sections are for anyone, of any age (including adults!). For younger people of school age, the sections are split by ages equivalent to school year groups. Please note that ages stated below are the age of the performed on 1st September 2023. We cannot wait to showcase the best original work.

Sections include:

- Write and Perform Your Own Poem
- Story writing
- Playwriting
- Presenting and Public Speaking
- Composing
- Writing Workshops

### Write and Perform Your Own Poem

Entrants to write their own poem on the theme of 'Oceans' and to submit the written copy and a video of their performance. Poems must be written in English. Submitted poems must not have been published elsewhere and must be the entrant's original, unaided work. The adjudicator will be looking for originality, imagination and the ability to craft and then perform the poem in a manner that engages the audience.

All written poems and videos must be uploaded to Play&Perform by 11:45pm on Monday 19th February 2024. Typed or handwritten submissions are acceptable, but please ensure that all the words of the poem are clearly visible. Either a pdf or image file can be uploaded. Please ensure that the title of the poem and the author's name are included. The time limit for performing the poem, i.e. for reading the poem aloud, is detailed below and must include an introduction.

The section will be adjudicated from the online submissions and winners will be announced on the first weekend of the festival. Selected entrants may be invited also to perform their poem at the festival on 16th March 2024. All entries will be displayed at the festival. Winners will also have their work displayed on the WCAF website. Entrants will retain all copyright for their poem for future use. By entering the competition and submitting their work, entrants agree that their poem can be used for marketing purposes.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
<b>1200 WRITE AND PERFORM A POEM 8 YEARS AND UNDER</b> Theme: Oceans Award: A book voucher to the value of £15 will be awarded to the winner of this class, providing a distinction or honours mark is awarded.	8 and under	Up to 2 mins	£6.00
<b>1201 WRITE AND PERFORM A POEM 12 YEARS AND UNDER</b> Theme: Oceans Award: A book voucher to the value of £15 will be awarded to the winner of this class, providing a distinction or honours mark is awarded.	12 and under	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
<b>1202 WRITE AND PERFORM A POEM 16 YEARS AND UNDER</b> Theme: Oceans Award: A book voucher to the value of £15 will be awarded to the winner of this class, providing a distinction or honours mark is awarded.	16 and under	Up to 5 mins	£10.00
<b>1203 OPEN CLASS FOR WRITE AND PERFORM A POEM</b> Theme: Oceans Award: A book voucher to the value of £15 will be awarded to the winner of this class, providing a distinction or honours mark is awarded.	Any	Up to 6 mins	£12.00

## Write a Short Story

Entrants to write their own story in approximately 300 words on the theme of 'Myths and Legends'. Stories must be written in English. The adjudicator will be looking for adherence to the theme, originality, imagination and the ability to craft the story in a manner that engages the audience. These classes are free to enter. However, we do have to cover the costs of the adjudicators and prizes, therefore donations are welcomed. Please visit our festival shop: [https://playandperform.co.uk/gst/gst\\_login.php?pn\\_token=wr](https://playandperform.co.uk/gst/gst_login.php?pn_token=wr)

All short stories must be uploaded to Play&Perform by 11:45pm on 19th February 2024. Please ensure that the title of the short story, the author's name and the word count are included. Scanned typed or handwritten submissions are acceptable, but please ensure that all the words of the story are clearly visible. A pdf or image file can be uploaded. Submitted stories must not have been published elsewhere and must be the entrant's original, unaided work.

The section will be adjudicated from the online submissions and winners will be announced on the first weekend of the festival. All entries will be displayed at the festival and selected entrants may be invited to perform their work at the festival or to submit a video or audio performance to be played at the festival. Winners will also have their work displayed on the WCAF website. Entrants will retain all copyright for their story for future use. By entering the competition and submitting their work, entrants agree that their story can be used for marketing purposes.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
<b>1204 WRITE A SHORT STORY 8 YEARS AND UNDER</b> Subject: Myths and Legends (maximum 300 words) Award: A book voucher to the value of £15 will be awarded to the winner, providing a distinction or honours mark is awarded.	8 and under		£0.00
<b>1205 WRITE A SHORT STORY 12 YEARS AND UNDER</b> Subject: Myths and Legends (maximum 300 words) Award: A book voucher to the value of £15 will be awarded to the winner of this class, providing a distinction or honours mark is awarded.	12 and under		£0.00
<b>1206 WRITE A SHORT STORY 16 YEARS AND UNDER</b> Subject: Myths and Legends (maximum 300 words) Award: A book voucher to the value of £15 will be awarded to the winner of this class, providing a distinction or honours mark is awarded.	16 and under		£0.00
<b>1207 WRITE A SHORT STORY - OPEN</b> Subject: Myths and Legends (maximum 300 words) Award: A book voucher to the value of £15 will be awarded to the winner of this class, providing a distinction or honours mark is awarded.	Any		£0.00

# Playwriting

Entrants to write a scene(s) from a play lasting between approximately 5 and 10 minutes, on any theme of 'Friendship'. The main language must be English. The adjudicator will be looking for originality, imagination and the ability to craft the story and characters in a manner that engages the audience.

All scene(s) must be uploaded to Play&Perform by 11:45pm on 19th February 2024. Please ensure that the title of the play and the author's name are included. Scanned, typed or handwritten submissions are acceptable, but please ensure that all the words of the story are clearly visible. A pdf or image file can be uploaded. Submitted scenes must not have been published elsewhere and must be the entrant's original, unaided work.

The section will be adjudicated from the online submissions and winners will be announced on the first weekend of the festival. All entries will be displayed at the festival and selected entrants may be invited to perform their work at the festival or to submit a video or audio performance to be played at the festival. Winners will also have their work displayed on the WCAF website. Entrants will retain all copyright for their story for future use. By entering the competition and submitting their work, entrants agree that their work can be used for marketing purposes.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
<b>1208 PLAYWRITING - 12 YEARS AND UNDER</b> Theme: Friendship	12 and under	Up to 10 mins	£8.00
<b>1209 PLAYWRITING - 16 YEARS AND UNDER</b> Theme: Friendship	16 and under	Up to 10 mins	£10.00
<b>1210 PLAYWRITING - OPEN</b> Theme: Friendship	Any	Up to 10 mins	£12.00

## Presenting and Public Speaking

These sections give entrants the opportunity to present to an audience on a subject of their choice. Powerpoint or other presentation tools may be used, along with relevant props/objects (these must be able to be carried by the entrant alone). The presentations will be assessed based upon their construction and delivery, the use of visual aids and interaction with the audience. This offers perfect practice and preparation for presentations for EPQ or for Duke of Edinburgh's award.

If using powerpoint or other presentation tools, please upload a copy by 19th February 2024 to PlayandPerform. We will contact you in advance of the day to discuss any specific needs you may have in terms of your presentation.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1218 SOLO PRESENTATION - AGE 8 AND UNDER	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£6.00
1219 SOLO PRESENTATION - AGE 10 AND UNDER	10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£6.00
1220 SOLO PRESENTATION - AGE 12 AND UNDER	12 and under	Up to 4 mins	£8.00
1221 SOLO PRESENTATION - AGE 14 AND UNDER	14 and under	Up to 4 mins	£8.00
1222 SOLO PRESENTATION - AGE 16 AND UNDER	16 and under	Up to 5 mins	£10.00
1223 SOLO PRESENTATION - OPEN	Any	Up to 6 mins	£12.00

## Composing

The composing sections are for instrumental and/or song composition. It can be for one instrument/voice or for many. It can be of any length and any style. Electronic music is acceptable.

These are competitive classes and places will be awarded. Composers may enter only one class appropriate for their age and the open class in each section. A different piece must be submitted for each entry. A written score (either hand written or printed) **MUST** be uploaded for the adjudicator, along with an audio or video recording of a performance of the original composition if at all possible. 'Live' performance is preferred for the recording, but if this is not possible, then an electronic performance from music software (i.e. Cubase etc) is acceptable. If for any reason you cannot produce a recording, please let us know: [admin@wcaf.org.uk](mailto:admin@wcaf.org.uk) We will make allowance if this is not possible.

**SCORES AND A RECORDING OF THE COMPOSITION TO BE SUBMITTED ONLINE BY 11:45pm ON MONDAY 19th FEBRUARY 2024.**

The recording should include an introduction from the composer prior to the performance. Quality of composition, score and performance will all be taken into account by the Adjudicators.

Composers will also perform their compositions at the festival (except in exceptional circumstances, where the submitted recording will be played) and prizes will be awarded.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
<b>1215 INSTRUMENTAL OR SONG COMPOSITION 14 YEARS AND UNDER</b> Award: The Mary Mannion Trophy and a voucher to the value of £15 may be awarded to the winner of this class or class 1216 at the adjudicator's discretion, providing they gain a Distinction or Honours certificate.	14 and under	Up to 5 mins	£8.00
<b>1216 INSTRUMENTAL OR SONG COMPOSITION 16 YEARS AND UNDER</b> Award: The Mary Mannion Trophy and a voucher to the value of £15 may be awarded to the winner of this class or class 1215 at the adjudicator's discretion, providing they gain a Distinction or Honours certificate.	16 and under	Up to 7.5 mins	£10.00
<b>1217 OPEN CLASS FOR INSTRUMENTAL OR SONG COMPOSITION</b> Award: 39 The Gig Mill Trophy	Any	Up to 20 mins	£12.00

## Writing Workshops

PLEASE NOTE: These workshops will take place on SATURDAY 9TH MARCH (all other poetry, prose and drama classes are on Saturday 16th March) and will last approximately 1 hour. We will attempt to schedule the workshops around any music classes that entrants may be in, as this is the music day of the festival.

The writing workshops are designed to encourage and inspire all aspiring young writers. They will be split into two age groups and participants will have a lot of fun exploring the themes and ideas in each workshop. They will produce and perform their own work. Family and friends are welcome to spectate if they wish. Places are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
<b>1211 JUNIOR POETRY WORKSHOP - AGE 8 TO 11</b> A great opportunity to have fun and create your own poem. This class is non-competitive.	Between 8 and 11		£5.00
<b>1212 SENIOR POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP AGE 11 - 16</b> A great opportunity to have fun and to create your own poetry. This class is non-competitive.	Between 11 and 16		£5.00
<b>1213 JUNIOR WRITING WORKSHOP - Max and Luchia</b> Kevin and Seraphim are The Story Knights, the Knights who tell Stories. The creative session is aimed at 7-11-year-olds. It is based on a book entitled 'Max & Luchia: The Game Makers', a story that is all about the power of young people's imagination. We will discuss the main characters in the book, the fairy tale world within the story and how we created the ideas using our own imagination. Next, we'll read a section from the book and then it is over to you, and your wonderful young creative minds to create something of your own. You can write down your ideas, draw them as pictures or even act them out amongst yourselves. All we ask is that you use the power of your own imagination. At the end of the performance, we will ask whether any of you would like to show us your ideas. In this way, you will become the stars of the show.	Between 5 and 11		£5.00
<b>1214 SENIOR WRITING WORKSHOP - The Objectors</b> Together with the audience, we will focus on the future and begin with our own, dystopian vision of life, 20 years from now. We will concentrate on the main themes within 'The Objectors', including identity, survival, climate change and social division in society. Then, it will be over to you to create your own vision of the future. The synopsis of The Objectors is as follows: The year is 2042. England is cut off from the former UK, Europe and the world. As resources dwindle, The Entitlement Party creates a devastating scheme to reduce the population. On their sixteenth birthday, young people of underling class are selected at random to eliminate six people. The reward for fulfilling their contract is to win their place amongst the elite. Samarah, Ethan and Ellie-Mae, each of whom has a different reason to object, refuse to sign the contract. As civilisation crumbles, and a programme of genocide is uncovered, the regime deploys its synthetic warriors to destroy an underling rebellion. The only force that can prevent victory for evil, is the spirit and collective strength of three young people. The Objectors.	Between 12 and 16		£5.00