

Extension of deadline for submission: 31 December 2020 at midnight (CET)



Competition Rules

Article 1: ORGANIZATION

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO; hereinafter "the Organizer"), through its Headquarters in Paris (France), and the Idries Shah Foundation (ISF) are pleased to invite young teenagers all over the globe to participate in the 2020 First Edition of the "World Tales" Short Story Competition (hereinafter "the Competition").

Participation in the Competition will be free-of-charge under the terms and conditions defined below.

The announcement of this Competition will be made on UNESCO's and the Idries Shah Foundation's websites and through various communication channels (in particular on www.unesco.org, and on <https://idriesshahfoundation.org/>), as well as on their partners' websites and social media.

The theme of this 2020 First Edition is: **“Once upon a time in my future”**.

With aim to foster deep reflections on the values of tolerance, solidarity, equality and peace, this Competition will encourage young teenagers to write fictional short stories about the current and future challenges of our societies, such as inequalities, exclusion or discrimination, among others.

Organized in close collaboration with the International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities of UNESCO (ICCAR), this Competition will be the opportunity for all participating young writers to present their visions, hopes and worries for the future, their meaningful insights, and their vivid imagination in the format of a short story.

Article 2: ELIGIBILITY

The Competition is open to all teenagers aged 12 to 18 years old (inclusive), regardless of their nationality or city of residence. Youth from cities that are not members of ICCAR are also welcome to join.

Family members (children and siblings) of employees of UNESCO and/or of the Idries Shah Foundation are not eligible to this Competition.

Legal authorizations:

Legal guardians of underage writers must provide a written permission as follows:

I, the undersigned *Mr/Ms FULL NAME* legal representative of *FULL NAME*, authorize *them/him/her* to participate in the UNESCO and Idries Shah Foundation "World Tales" Short Story Competition which runs from January 2020 to December 2020.

I read and agreed with the terms of the Competition rules.

Signed in *CITY, COUNTRY*, on the *DATE*
SIGNATURE

18-year-old writers must provide a written permission as follows:

I, the undersigned *Mr/Ms FULL NAME*, am a participant in the UNESCO and Idries Shah Foundation "World Tales" Short Story Competition which runs from January 2020 to December 2020.

I read and agreed with the terms of the Competition rules.

Signed in *CITY, COUNTRY*, on the *DATE*
SIGNATURE

No participation will be accepted by the Organizer without one of the above written permission. You may either handwrite or type and print the text of the permission, as long as the signature is handwritten (unless you have an electronic signature). The permission must be scanned or photographed and attached in your email, preferably as a PDF, PNG or JPEG file.

Submission rules:

To confirm participation, all young writers must follow the instructions outlined below:

- Send their short story as a Word or a PDF document to worldtales@unesco.org;
- In the subject of the email, clearly write: "World Tales" Competition;
- In the body of the email and below each story, clearly write:
 - o The title of the short-story;
 - o The word count;
 - o The name and birth date of the young writer;
 - o The name and contact information of the teacher supervisor (if any) and of the legal guardian (both email address and phone number);
 - o The city and country;
- Include their signed written authorization as an attachment.

Each participant may submit **only one entry** to the Competition.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the deadline for submission to worldtales@unesco.org is postponed to 31 December 2020 at 12.00 pm (CET).

Participation in the Competition implies full acceptance of these rules and all of their provisions. Please note that non-compliance with the rules will result in disqualification of the entrants.

Article 3: VALIDITY OF SHORT STORIES

The content of the submitted entries must meet the below criteria:

- Entries must be short stories of 250 (minimum) to 500 words (maximum) that fit onto one A4 piece of paper recto-verso;
- Entries must be works of fiction;
- Stories must reflect on the values of tolerance, anti-discrimination, equality and human rights;
- Entries must reflect on the ideal of a safe, resilient, inclusive, peaceful and sustainable future. This does not mean that entries must be positive or uplifting;
- Entries must be typed in English or French, using Arial 12-point Regular font;
- Entries must be individually imagined and written, although the young writers may work with the support, and under the supervision, of their teachers, education professionals and/or public library employees. In this case, the name and contact information of the supervisor(s) must appear in the submission email;
- Drawings and illustrations are optional;
- Entries must be the original unpublished work of their authors. Each young writer in the Competition certifies that they are the sole copyright-holder of the submitted short story. Entries that are partially or fully copied from another source will be disqualified. Entries that have won and/or placed in other writing contests are ineligible as well.
- Entries must not contain elements that are defamatory, offensive, pornographic, racist, insulting, unlawful or contrary to good morals.

The Organizer reserve the right to disqualify any entry that does not meet the above criteria.

Article 4: INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

The participants and their legal guardians on their behalf:

- Grant to the Organizer for free the worldwide non-exclusive right for the whole term of copyright, to use, edit, alter, copy, exhibit, reproduce, adapt, publish or distribute and redistribute the entries in full or part for purposes of publicizing the Organizer's programmes or for any other lawful purpose and communicate to the public, worldwide, in any language in printed and electronic format, the whole or any part of the submitted short stories. UNESCO is an open access publisher using the Creative Commons IGO 3.0 set of licenses to grant reuse to third parties. The rights granted to UNESCO will be shared through this open access policy;
- Understand and agree that the submitted materials will become the property of the Organizer and will not be returned;
- Waive the right to inspect or approve any finished products, whether in written or electronic form;
- Waive any right to royalties, payment or other consideration arising from or related to the use of the submitted entries;
- Agree to indemnify the Organizer and hold it harmless against any third party claims for loss, injury, damage (including any legal costs and/or other expenses properly incurred), prejudice,

liability or expense suffered as a result of or in any manner in connection with the entry, any other of the acts or omissions or any information provided, including but not limited to, claims for violation of copyrights;

- Grant the Organizer the right to use their name, photograph, image or likeness in the context of any recording, any presentation, speech or other form of publicity in connection with the Competition;
- Recognize that UNESCO, as a specialized agency of the United Nations, enjoys the privileges and immunities as provided in the 1947 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies;
- Agree that if an amicable settlement of any dispute relating to the Competition cannot be reached, it shall be referred to arbitration in accordance with the UNCITRAL (United Nations Commission on International Trade Law) Arbitration Rules.

The following credit shall be given: ©*NAME OF WRITERS*/UNESCO.

Article 5: DETERMINATION OF LAUREATES

Entries will be judged by an international Jury composed of representatives of UNESCO and the Idries Shah Foundation.

Members of the Jury are:

- **Abi Elphinstone**, bestselling and multi-award shortlisted author;
- **Anna James**, arts journalist and bestselling author;
- **Jon J. Muth**, artist and writer in children's literature and graphic novels;
- **Fouzia Belhami**, Associated Programme Specialist, Unit for the ASPNet Associated Schools Network, Education Sector of UNESCO;
- **Maria Kypriotou**, Assistant Programme Specialist, Youth Section, Social and Human Sciences of UNESCO;
- **Yvette Kaboza**, Programme Specialist, Inclusion, Rights and Dialogue Section & Sport Section, Social and Human Sciences of UNESCO.

Entries will be judged primarily for their creativity, originality, imagination and relevance to the theme. For this reason, all participants will benefit from a particular leniency for potential grammatical and linguistic mistakes.

After deliberating with the Jury, the Competition will reward 12 Laureates:

- 3 Laureates (with a Gold, a Silver and a Bronze position) to represent the 12/13 years old category,
- 3 Laureates (Gold, Silver, Bronze) to represent the 14/15 years old category,
- 3 Laureates (Gold, Silver, Bronze) to represent the 16/17 years old category,
- 3 Laureates (Gold, Silver, Bronze) to represent the 18 years old category,

Due to the modification of these rules to extend the deadline for submitting entries to 31 December 2020, the names of the 12 Laureates of the First Edition of the Competition will be not announced in December 2020 but in the early Summer of 2021. The exact date will be communicated later on UNESCO's website.

Choices will be made according to the discretion of the Jury. No appeals will be considered.

Article 6: AWARDS

The work of all 12 Laureates will be published in a Special Edition hardcover book featuring all winning short stories and honorable mentions. It will be available in ePub format as well to be showcased on UNESCO's and the Idries Shah Foundation's websites. It will be widely disseminated to all their networks, including to ICCAR member cities and all their participating schools and public libraries.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we regret to announce that it will unfortunately not be possible to organize an Award ceremony at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris (France).

However, all Competition contestants and Laureates will be invited to attend an online Award ceremony in the early Summer of 2021, during which the names of the six Gold winning laureates will be announced.

Each of these 6 Gold winning Laureates will be awarded an iPad.

All 12 Laureates, including the Bronze and Silver winning Laureates, will receive a personalized certificate and copies of the Special Edition book in the mail.

The schools and cities of the 12 Laureates will also receive copies of the Special Edition hardcover book of winning entries as well as a set of ISF children's books.

Elements of the winning entries may also be published on the Organizer's website prior to the online Award ceremony in view to communicate on the Competition and the work of UNESCO and the Idries Shah Foundation for global tolerance, non-violence, anti-discrimination, peace and youth empowerment.

The Organizer holds the right to exchange the Awards for a similar Award of the same value.

No Award may be subject for a refund or for exchange. The Organizer shall not be held responsible for theft, loss or damages of Awards after it has been awarded to the Laureates.

Article 7: DATA PROTECTION

The information provided by the entrants may be used for data processing, excluding commercial or political use. They benefit from the right to access, rectify and remove data about themselves by making a formal request to the Organizer.

Entrants may request to be omitted or removed from the Competition before the closing date of the submission (31 December 2020).

Article 8: REIMBURSEMENT

Participation in the Competition is free of charge. The Organizer is not responsible for any expenses that the young writers may be incurred in the creation and submission of the short story.

Article 9: RESPONSABILITY OF THE ORGANIZER

The Organizer reserves the right to modify, extend, shorten, suspend or cancel the Competition without notice and without liability incurred thereby (fortuitous event or “force majeure” and any other events that are considered as making it impossible for the execution of the Competition as initially planned). No compensation will be awarded to the entrants or to their cities.

The Organizer will not be responsible for any Internet malfunction preventing access to the Competition.

For more information, visit the World Tales Short Story Competition page at:
www.idriesshahfoundation.org.

If you have any queries, kindly contact: worldtales@unesco.org

The World Tales Short Story Competition is funded by the Idries Shah Foundation.

About the International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities of UNESCO (ICCAR)

ICCAR is a 500+ global cities network that empowers local decision-makers by promoting dialogue, advocacy and joint action towards an inclusive urban development free from discrimination. ICCAR is composed of seven regional and national Coalitions in Africa, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Canada and the United States of America.

More information is available on
<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/social-and-human-sciences/themes/fight-against-discrimination/coalition-of-cities/>

About the Idries Shah Foundation

The Idries Shah Foundation is a British charity dedicated to bridging cultures through the power of stories. Afghan thinker and writer Idries Shah was himself a proponent of Teaching Stories or narratives created as a vehicle for the transmission of wisdom.

His illustrated children’s books can be read for free on www.idriesshahfoundation.org.