

# Inspired? Get writing! Creative Writing Competition 2009/10

National Galleries of Scotland, English-Speaking Union, Scottish Poetry Library  
Supported by The Scotsman

## Competition Guidelines and Rules

### *(A) Who is the competition for?*

The competition is open to all.

Entries will be placed in one of five categories, as follows:

- Under 12 years
- 12 - 15 years
- 16-18 years
- Unpublished adults
- Published adults

### **How do I know if I am a published or unpublished writer?**

You should enter in the published category if you have received payment for work published by a third party in a book, magazine, pamphlet or newspaper.

### *(B) What do I have to do?*

Write a poem or piece of prose inspired by one of the works in the collections of the National Galleries of Scotland (NGS). The work may be selected from any of the NGS galleries (The National Gallery of Scotland, The Scottish National Portrait Gallery, The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, The Dean Gallery, The Royal Scottish Academy, Duff House and Paxton House).

Images of many of the works can be accessed through the NGS website [www.nationalgalleries.org](http://www.nationalgalleries.org) in the section '[Online Collection](#)'. Please ensure that the work selected is part of the NGS permanent collection (unfortunately a number of entries were disqualified last year on this account).

The work selected does not have to be on exhibition. It may be on loan or in storage.

### **Language, length and presentation;**

As a guideline, pieces should not significantly exceed 1,000 words.

Entries may be in English, Scots or Gaelic, but we must ask that Gaelic pieces be accompanied with a translation to English.

Please ensure your entry is typed, double spaced for prose and in a clear font at a minimum of 11 point.

### *(C) When, where and how do I send my entries?*

All entries must be submitted by Friday 22nd January 2010

email [inspired@esuscotland.org.uk](mailto:inspired@esuscotland.org.uk)

Please complete the following form giving your name and the required details as the last page of the attachment. For school entries, a separate form **MUST BE COMPLETED AND ATTACHED FOR EACH PUPIL.**

**ENTRY FORM (a separate form must be completed for each piece submitted)**

<b>Category Entered</b> Cat A Under 12 years Cat B 12 - 15 years Cat C 16-18 years Cat D Unpublished adults Cat E Published adults	
<b>Name of entrant</b>	
<b>Address (both home and school for Cat A-C)</b>	
<b>Contact telephone number (both home and school for Cat A-C)</b>	
<b>Contact email address (both home and school for Cat A-C)</b>	
<b>Title of your entry</b>	
<b>Name of work that inspired the piece</b>	
<b>Name of artist</b>	
<b>Was the work viewed online or in the gallery?</b>	

ONLY IF YOU DO NOT HAVE EMAIL  
 post to: Inspired? Get Writing!  
 English-Speaking Union Scotland  
 23 Atholl Crescent  
 EDINBURGH  
 EH3 8HQ

A maximum of 5 entries can be submitted by any one person.

Entries cannot be returned and participants are strongly advised to keep a copy of their original work.

NGS, ESU and SPL reserve the right to publish entries for publicity, promotional and educational purposes but assure individual writers that full acknowledgement and/or credit will be given to them in the event of any such use.

***(D) Why should I enter?***

Ten awards will be made within each of the five categories - winner, two runners up and seven highly commended. Awards will be made as follows:

Highly Commended - public reading of the work (or extracts at our discretion) at a public event at the National Gallery of Scotland on Thursday 22 April with post event refreshments for invited guests.

Runners up - as above with the addition of free entry for two at all National Galleries of Scotland exhibitions for one year and two volumes of published work relating to art and poetry.

Winners - as above with the addition of winning work published in the Scotsman newspaper (the Scotsman reserve the right to edit).

The winner in the Unpublished Writers Category will also be offered a free place on a prestigious creative writing course.

The winner in each school age category will be invited, with their entire class, to participate in a free guided tour and creative writing workshop at NGS. There will be assistance with transport costs.

A second volume of *Inspired? Get writing!* featuring the work of the winners and runners-up in the 2007/08 and 2008/09 competitions, has been published by the National Galleries of Scotland with generous support from the Scottish Arts Council and the Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust. It is hoped that a third volume featuring the work of future winners and runners up will be published in 2011.

The winners of the competition will be decided by a panel of judges appointed by the participating organisations. The decision of the judges will be final.

The results of the competition will be announced by Friday 9th April 2010, and will be published on the websites of each organisation:

[www.nationalgalleries.org](http://www.nationalgalleries.org)

[www.esuscotland.org.uk](http://www.esuscotland.org.uk)

[www.spl.org.uk](http://www.spl.org.uk)

**Should you require any further information please contact:**

Linda McClelland, National Gallery of Scotland 0131 624 6534 [lmcclelland@nationalgalleries.org](mailto:lmcclelland@nationalgalleries.org)

Suzanne Ensom, English Speaking Union 0131 229 1528 [development@esuscotland.org.uk](mailto:development@esuscotland.org.uk)

Lorna Irvine, Scottish Poetry Library 0131 557 2876 [education@spl.org.uk](mailto:education@spl.org.uk)