

About entries

1. The competition will be judged in 4 separate sections:
 - **Adult short story** (1st prize £500, 2nd prize £300, 3rd prize £200)
 - **Adult poetry** (1st prize £500, 2nd prize £300, 3rd prize £200)
 - **Secondary school (S3-S6) prose or poetry** (1st prize £100, 2nd prize £60, 3rd prize £40)
 - **Primary school (P5-P7) prose or poetry** (1st prize £50, 2nd prize £30, 3rd prize £20)
2. The adult competition is open to all writers worldwide.
3. School entrants must be in the named year groups on the closing date. The school competition is limited to schools run by Highland Council.
4. You may submit only one entry per section. No-one can be awarded more than one prize.
5. Entry fee for the adult sections is £8 per entry; entry is free for the school sections.
6. The writing must be previously unpublished, and can be in any variety of English or Scots or a combination of both.
7. The writing must be on a theme specified on the entry form.
8. The length of entries is limited as follows:
 - Poetry (primary, secondary and adult), up to 40 lines
 - Primary prose, up to 500 words; Secondary prose, up to 1000 words
 - Adult short story, up to 2500 words
9. Copyright will remain with the author. The organisers reserve the right to publish a collection of winning and commended entries. Winners will be required to supply an electronic copy (in pdf format) of their entries for publication on the High Life Highland website www.highlifehighland.com.
10. Entrants who use real people *under their real names* as characters in their story or poem are advised that they should ensure they have permission to do so, as winning entries will appear on the High Life Highland website.

About submission of entries

1. Early submission is encouraged. The last date for acceptance of entries is **Friday 03 March 2017**.
2. **Entries by post:** Three copies of each entry must be submitted, typed on A4 paper. Entrants should NOT put their names on the manuscript but should pin a single completed entry form to the 3 copies of each entry. (Staple together multi-page entries.) Schools may send entries collectively in one large envelope, but each individual entry must be identified by having the pupil's single entry form pinned to the 3 copies of the entry. Please send entries in an envelope clearly marked "**Neil Gunn Writing Competition**" to: The Library Support Unit, High Life Highland, 31a Harbour Road, Inverness, IV1 1UA. If an email address is supplied, receipt will be acknowledged by email. (For a posted acknowledgement of receipt of the envelope, enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope marked "Receipt".)
3. **Entries by email:** Entries may be sent in pdf format, with entry forms in Word or pdf format to charlotteemacarthur@gmail.com. Receipt will be acknowledged by email.
4. **Entry fees** can be paid by cheque or postal order made out to *The Neil Gunn Trust* OR by direct bank transfer to Clydesdale Bank plc, Park House, Dingwall, Scotland, IV15 9HA
Within UK: to account name: The Neil Gunn Trust, sort code: 82-62-07, account number: 40441247
Outwith UK: to IBAN GB90CLYD82620740441247 (Use your name as reference.)

About the judging

1. A panel appointed by High Life Highland and The Neil Gunn Trust will judge the entries.
2. The judges reserve the right to make special awards for schools and commendations for individuals.
3. Those judging the competition or involved with its organisation in any direct way are not eligible to enter.
4. Entries cannot be returned.
5. Judges cannot enter into discussions about individual entries. Comments by the lead judges on winning entries will be available at www.highlifehighland.com/neilgunn