



Open Poetry and Short Story Competitions 2010

Didsbury Arts Festival will take place Saturday, 25 September to Saturday, 2 October, 2010. Local artists, organisations and people all over Didsbury are invited to support this exciting community event the aim of which is to celebrate the wealth of talent, diversity and vibrant community that make Didsbury so special.

DAF Open Poetry and Short Story Competitions

- Both competitions will be judged in three age categories, under 12yrs, under 18yrs and over 18yrs.
- There will be a winner and two runners up in each age category.
- There is no set theme for either competition.
- Short stories should be no more than 2,500 words in length.
- Poems should be a maximum of 40 lines.
- Poems and stories submitted should not have been published before.
- Each entrant may submit up to 6 poems and two short stories.
- The closing date is **Friday, 16 July, 2010**.

Judging & Winners Awards Ceremony

The poems and short stories will go through a judging process over the summer. Details of the winners will be announced during the festival week and posted on the festival web site together with the stories and poems. There will also be an awards ceremony during the festival week with book tokens given as prizes. Further details of the announcement and awards ceremony will be posted on the festival web site in early September.

The Judges

The final judging will be carried out by the Poets in Residence and Writers in Residence for this year's festival, who are:

Poetry

Linda Chase. Linda is a long time resident of Didsbury and publishes with Carcanet Press. She is the founder of Poets and Players, a poetry and music reading series and established the Poetry School in Manchester. www.lindachase.co.uk

Adam O'Riordan. Adam was born in Didsbury in 1982 and educated at Parris Wood High School and Oxford University. In 2008 he was the youngest Poet in Residence at the Wordsworth Trust. His first collection *In the Flesh* was [will be] published by Chatto in July 2010 www.adamoriordan.com

Short Story

Adèle Geras. Adele Geras has lived in Didsbury since 1967. She's written more than 90 books for children and young adults as well as four novels for adults and poetry collection. Her latest book is DIDO (David Fickling Books) www.adelegeras.com

Nicholas Royle. Nicholas Royle, born and brought up in Manchester and living in Didsbury since 2003, is the author of five novels, two novellas and a short story collection. He teaches creative writing at MMU and runs Nightjar Press, publishing signed, limited-edition short stories in chapbook form. www.nicholasroyle.com

Submitting Entries

All entries for the competitions should be submitted by **Friday, 16 July** to:
Didsbury Arts Festival
Poem and Short Story Competition
C/o 11 Lancaster Rd
Didsbury
Manchester M20 2QU

Or submit online to: competitions@didsburyartsfestival.org with 'Poetry and Short Story Competitions' in the email subject header.

On a separate piece of paper, please also include the following details with each entry.

1. **Name** (Note that the name of the poet/writer should not appear anywhere on the manuscripts.)
2. **Address**
3. **Telephone Contact**
4. **Mobile Contact**
5. **Email address**
6. **Age** (if under 18yrs)
7. **Title of each Poem or Short Story**

Please note:

- **The closing date for entries is 16 July 2010**
- **Entries cannot be returned and by entering the competition, poets and writers agree to the poem or short story being published on the DAF web site.**

Visit the web site at www.didsburyartsfestival.com.

Enquiries should be emailed to the festival team at info@didsburyartsfestival.com.