

Julia's House Summer Shorties Children's Story Writing Competition Competition Rules

1. The competition is organised by Julia's House and is open to all children who will be aged between five and 16 years old on the 22nd June 2020 who are full time residents in Dorset or Wiltshire (based on geographic post codes).
2. Entries must be submitted by an adult (parent/guardian or teacher) on behalf of the child, and this adult must have been given parental permission.
3. Entry will be in two age categories – ages five to nine years and ten to 16 years.
4. Only one entry is permitted per child. Entry is free but by making a donation in return for taking part in the competition, your support will be helping us to continue to be there for the children and families during the coronavirus crisis and beyond. You can donate at juliashouse.org/summershortiesdonation or include your donation with your entry (please do not send cash). Donations are optional and will not influence the decision of the judges in any way.
5. Entrants must submit an original fictional story of either 300 words maximum (ages five to nine) or 500 words maximum (ages ten-16), using the story title 'A Different Summer'. Children in the younger age category can choose to illustrate their story if they wish but this will not form part of the judging criteria.
6. All stories need to be sent in with a completed entry form, which is available on the Julia's House website at juliashouse.org/summershorties or can be requested by email from events@juliashouse.org or via post using the contact details below. The responsible adult submitting the story on behalf of the entrant will need to ensure that they have parental permission to do so.
7. Entries can be sent by post to the JH Summer Shorties Competition at the address below, or via email to events@juliashouse.org (if emailing your entry, please save the file using your full name and location and use JH Summer Shorties Competition as the email subject).
8. The competition opens for entries at 9.00am on Monday 22nd June 2020 and closes on Friday 31st July 2020 at 5.00pm. No entries will be accepted if received by email or post after the competition deadline. The winners will be announced on Friday 19th August 2020.
9. Entries will be judged by an independent panel of judges, including Julia's House patron Minette Walters, Julia's House Young Ambassador, Ebony Robinson, and Dorchester Arts Artistic Director, Mark Tattersall. Entries will be judged on the following criteria: originality, imagination, plot, characterisation, language and ability to engage the reader.
10. Prizes will be awarded to one winning entry in each age category in each county (a total of four prizes altogether). A runner up in each age category in each county will also be chosen to receive a commendation and feedback on their story from the judges.
11. The winning entries from each county will be published on the Julia's House website and may also be featured in the local press.

12. By submitting a story the entrant's parent or guardian agrees to participate in publicity connected with the event, including publication in local press and on social media, and that Julia's House may at its discretion quote excerpts from the entry for publicity purposes.
13. The Julia's House Terms and Conditions apply to this competition, which can be found on the charity's website at juliashouse.org/summershorties.

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Julia's House, Barclays House, 1 Wimborne Road, Poole BH15 2BB