



Centre for Irish
and Scottish Studies



CONDITIONS Of ENTRY

- The 2023 Robert Burns Teen Poetry Competition runs from Monday 11 September - Friday 1 December 2023 inclusive.
- Entries close Friday 1 December 2023, at 5pm.
- Late entries will not be accepted.
- A strict word count of 500 words max will be imposed.
- All poems must be original to the person on the entry form and unpublished. Only one entry per person.
- Entries will be judged anonymously by the selected panel.
- The decision of the judges is final.
- Winning entrants will be selected and informed by Friday 15 December 2023.
- Young poets must be aged between 12 and 14 years inclusive (high school years 9, 10 and 11) at the time of entry.
- First, Second and Third Prizes will be awarded.
- First prize package includes a cheque for \$500 sponsored by the Dunedin Edinburgh Sister City Society.
- Winners will be publicly announced and prizes presented on Tuesday 25 January 2024 between 5pm and 6pm, at the Dunedin City Library.
- First prize winners will be invited to read their poem on collection of their prize, or may choose for their poem to be read on their behalf.
- Winning entrants will not be funded to attend the official prize-giving.
- If unable to attend, arrangements will be made for winning prizes to be collected by, or delivered to, the winner.
- First prize winning poems will be published in the Otago Daily Times and published on the Dunedin Public Libraries' website: www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz
- A copy of all entries will be retained by the Dunedin Public Libraries, unless an entrant requests otherwise.
- Please submit a copy of your original poem as entries will not be returned.

POETRY COMPETITION

**Rap Like
Robbie
and
Score
Yourself
\$500**



A Brief History

ROBERT BURNS WAS A ROCK STAR BACK IN THE DAY. HE WROTE ABOUT EVERYTHING FROM NATURE TO SEX, DRINKING, POVERTY, EQUALITY, FLIRTING, LOVE, DRINK, WOMEN, AND A LOT ABOUT REMORSE!

IF HE WAS ALIVE TODAY, HE'D BE LOADING HIS STUFF ON SPOTIFY AND REGULARLY TRASHING HIS HOTEL ROOM. SOMETIMES HE WROTE IN SCOTS, SOMETIMES IN ENGLISH, AND HE HAD A WICKED SENSE OF HUMOUR.

Why not write your own poem inspired by Robert Burns and score \$500, sponsored by the Dunedin-Edinburgh Sister City Society! You can write about whatever you like, in English or you can have a go at writing in Scots. It can be any style – just read a bit of Burns' work and see where it takes you.

Need a bit of help with your poem? **Email:** library@dcc.govt.nz and we'll put you in touch with a poet to help workshop your poetry.

Resources to get you started:
<https://hail.to/dunedin-public-libraries/article/kjS2Yox>

HOW DO I ENTER?

To enter you must be in years 9, 10 or 11 at high school and a resident of Otago.

Fill out the entry form or visit <http://www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz/whats-on/competitions> to enter online

Submit a copy of your poem with your entry form by **5pm Friday 1 December 2023.**

Poems must be no longer than 500 words.

What if I win?

THE PRIZES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1ST PRIZE:

- Stan Forbes Medal
- **\$500** generously sponsored by the Dunedin-Edinburgh Sister City Society
- Poem published in the Otago Daily Times newspaper

2ND PRIZE: Certificate

3RD PRIZE: Certificate

All prize winners will be invited to attend a ceremony on 25 January 2024 (Robert Burns' birthday), at Dunedin City Library, and will be asked to read their poem on receipt of their prize. Prize winners may nominate someone else to read for them if they prefer.

entry form

Name _____

Address _____

Daytime Phone _____

Email _____

Age _____

School _____

TITLE OF POEM: _____

(please include your poem with your entry form)

- ☐ I agree for a copy of my poem to be retained by the Dunedin Public Libraries, and to be published on www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz
- ☐ I agree for my poem to be published by the Otago Daily Times should it win.

ENTRIES CLOSE: Friday 1 December 2023 | 5pm

POST: 2023 Robert Burns Poetry Competition
Dunedin Public Libraries
PO Box 5542
Moray Place
Dunedin 9054

DOWNLOAD: www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz/news-and-events