



77th  
NUNEATON  
FESTIVAL OF  
ARTS  
2025

ORIGINAL  
WRITING  
SYLLABUS



**NB: THERE IS NO QUALIFIED  
FIRST AIDER ON SITE AT THIS EVENT.**



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

Registered Charity Number: 1041379



## Nuneaton Festival of Arts DATES 2025



SECTION	ENTRY DATES	COMPETITION/ ADJUDICATION	EXHIBITION	COLLECTION OF WORK	*PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
<b>CREATIVE ARTS</b>					
ART	Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> & Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> March - Sat 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Tues 29 <sup>th</sup> April - Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> April 1.00-5.30pm
CRAFT	Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> & Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> -Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Tues 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 5.40-7.30pm
NEEDLECRAFT	Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> & Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> -Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Tues 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 5.30-7- 30pm
PHOTOGRAPHY	Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> & Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> March - Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> April 10.30-12.00
ORIGINAL WRITING	Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	N/A	Winning entries displayed in Nuneaton Library		J:Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> May A: Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> May
					*Winners to be notified.
<b>PERFORMING ARTS</b>					
PIANO	Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> May	N/A	N/A	Awarded on the day
SPEECH AND DRAMA	Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> , Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> & Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup> May	N/A	N/A	Awarded on the day
STAGE DANCE	Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Sat & Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> May. Sat & Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup> May Sat & Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> May	N/A	N/A	Awarded on the day
VOCAL	Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> May, Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> May Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> May	N/A	N/A	Awarded on the day
WOODWIND STRINGS AND BRASS	Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> May Possible Fri Eve 9 <sup>th</sup> May	N/A	N/A	Awarded on the day

### Executive Committee

President: The Worshipful The Mayor of Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Chair: Mrs Gwyn Evans

Email: [festival.chair@nuneatonfoa.org.uk](mailto:festival.chair@nuneatonfoa.org.uk)

Hon. Secretary: Mrs Jane McConnell

Email: [secretary@nuneatonfoa.org.uk](mailto:secretary@nuneatonfoa.org.uk)

Publicity Officer: Mrs Val Squires

Email: [publicity.officer@nuneatonfoa.org.uk](mailto:publicity.officer@nuneatonfoa.org.uk)

Tel: 0745 4242648

Vice Chair: Mrs Val Squires

Email: [vice.chair@nuneatonfoa.org.uk](mailto:vice.chair@nuneatonfoa.org.uk)

Hon. Treasurer/Trophies: Mrs Marjorie Owen

Email: [finance@nuneatonfoa.org.uk](mailto:finance@nuneatonfoa.org.uk)

Email: [marjorieowen24@gmail.com](mailto:marjorieowen24@gmail.com)

Digital Officer: Mrs Jane Hanson

Email: [jmh109@talktalk.net](mailto:jmh109@talktalk.net)

#### Adult and Junior Original Writing Secretary:

Mrs Joan Wilson

3 Green Lane

Grendon CV9 2PL

Tel: 01827 716809

Email: [cwil67@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cwil67@hotmail.co.uk)

**Last date for entry forms, fees and works: Juniors and Adults: Sunday 2nd March 2025**

#### Presentation of Awards:

**Juniors** - Wednesday 7th May 2025 5.30 - 7.30pm  
(timings may be subject to change)

at the Salvation Army Citadel, 1 Dugdale Street, Nuneaton CV11 5QE

**Adults** - Friday 16th May 2025 6.30 - 8.30pm

at Chilvers Coton Heritage Centre, Avenue Road, Nuneaton CV11 4LU. Winners will be notified.

### Original Writing Section rules and conditions of entry

1. **Entry Forms:** Competitors must send their entry form and fee to the section secretary by the closing date. To comply with the safeguarding procedures, the official Nuneaton Festival of Arts entry form **MUST** be completed and signed. **Amateurs only.** (Entry forms are available to download from the Festival website).
2. **Payment:** Payment may be made by cheque, (made payable to Nuneaton Festival of Arts), cash or by Bank transfer.
3. **Entries: *Only 3 entries per class allowed per individual.***  
**NB: 'CLASS' REFERS TO THE FESTIVAL CLASS NUMBER**
4. **Late Entries:** late entries will be considered
5. **Paper:** Please use one side of A4 paper only. Each page must be labelled with **Name and Festival class number.**  
**DO NOT** mount work especially for the Festival, though we will accept if already mounted.
6. **Schools:** may submit block entries (full fees required) to cover a selection of work provided the names and year groups of children whose work is entered are clearly marked and with the name of the school.
7. **SAE: ADULT SECTION ONLY.** Please enclosed a large stamped addressed envelope if the work is not to be collected personally after the adjudication.
8. **Nome-de-Plume:** Entries using pseudonym (adult section only) will be accepted in all adult classes but, the competitor's real name and address must be sent to the section secretary in a sealed envelope.
9. **Names:** Competitor's names will not appear in the programme.
10. **Results:** Competitor's allocated an award will be notified and invited to attend a presentation evening.

Copies of the Safeguarding/GDPR/Privacy Policies can be found in the main syllabus/from the FoA's website

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

Any queries should be addressed to the Festival Secretary: [secretary@nuneatonfoa.org.uk](mailto:secretary@nuneatonfoa.org.uk)

### **TROPHIES/AWARDS**

**Trophies are awarded for a nominal year only. Please return by the date on the Trophy receipt.**

#### **JUNIOR CLASSES**

**The Eva Rushton Cup** Best entry in Classes 602-607

**The Margaret Wood Cup** Best entry in Classes 608 and 618

**The Christina Jayne Cup** Class 615

**Two Non-fiction Trophies** including one specifically for Class 623, awarded at the Adjudicator's discretion

**The Drachendale Cup** (story),

**The Mavis Addison Cup** (Poetry) **and The Nuneaton Writer's Circle Shield (Secondary School)** will be awarded at the Adjudicator's discretion, to the school whose entries show the best promise and initiative

**The Harry Branston Award** of an inscribed pen to be awarded annually, will be given to the entrant in the Junior section whose work shows initiative and potential

**The George Eliot Trophy (presented by Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council)** will be awarded for creativity and original ideas in Classes 611 to 619.



#### **ADULT CLASSES**

**The Albert F Cross Cup** Best entry in Classes 630-631

**The Robert Sloan Cup** Best entry in Classes 632-633

**The George Eliot Fellowship Trophy** Best entry in Class 637

**The Stella Branson Trophy** Class 640

**The Jeff Veasey Trophy** Class 641

**The George Eliot Cup** Class 642

**The Mavis Addison Trophy** Class 643

**The Endeavour Cup** - Adjudicator's choice overall

## Adjudicator - Junior Classes: Anita Willars

Dear Writers,

I feel very honoured and privileged to be asked by the Nuneaton Festival of Arts to judge the entries for the Junior Original Writing Section of the Nuneaton Festival of Arts.

I learnt to read very early in my life and loved to lose myself in the stories and I am still an avid reader. I struggled with writing at first as English was my second language but I was lucky to have a very special teacher who encouraged and helped me to write my ideas down.

This experience led me to want to teach which I did for many years before becoming an Adviser for Warwickshire County Council and later for the Government's Curriculum and Assessment Department. One aspect of my role that I thoroughly enjoyed was to look at children's writing and over the years I must have read thousands and thousands of pieces of writing from primary age children.

Today I am a Governor at two schools where I have responsibility for monitoring Literacy which again gives me the opportunity to read children's amazing and imaginative writing.

So I really look forward to reading your entries.

We accept photocopies of children's work, but please do justice to your children's writing by ensuring that all the words are readable.

### Junior Section Poetry Writing - Any Metre or Form Fee: £2.00 per entry

Please note that Festival class numbers have changed this year to match the year group

Festival class nos:			Festival class nos:		
602	Year 2	Up to 30 lines	603	Year 3	Up to 30 lines
604	Year 4	Up to 30 lines	605	Year 5	Up to 30 lines
606	Year 6	Up to 30 lines	607	Year 7	Up to 50 lines
608	Year 8	Up to 50 lines	609	Year 9	Up to 50 lines

### Junior Section Short Story Writing Fee: £2.00 per entry

Please note that class numbers have changed this year to match the year group

Festival class nos:			Festival class nos:		
611	Year 1	About 200 words	612	Year 2	About 200 words
613	Year 3	About 200 words	614	Year 4	About 500 words
615	Year 5	About 500 words	616	Year 6	About 700 words
617	Year 7	About 1000 word	618	Year 8	About 1000 words
619	Year 9	About 1000 words			

### Junior Section Non-Fiction Writing Fee: £2.00 per entry

Age Group Year 1-9 (Year 1-6: 200-500 words Year 7-9: 500-700 words)

The secretary may divide the entries into age groups and/or genre depending on the number of entries received and the ages of children entering and also move entries to a different class if it seems more appropriate

Festival class nos:

- 620 Newspaper article
- 621 Magazine article or factual type writing about a specific person, place or object.
- 622 Journal or diary writing
- 623 Information leaflet, advertisement or poster
- 624 Argument, debate or opinion
- 625 Any non-fiction writing which does not fit into the above classes

**Be creative and imaginative!**

The name of any products **must be imaginary and bear no resemblance** to any product on the market

### Adjudicator – Adult Classes: John Farren Whitehead

Wow! It will be a real privilege to read your work.

For many years I have been involved in leading Creative Writing and Book Groups with U3A, in promoting and judging poetry and short story competitions with Rotary and writing my own poetry, short stories and magazine articles. I am an enthusiastic member of a writing group that meets weekly to share and critique our work.

I can only advise that you write from your heart, wasting no words and convey what interests and amuses you. Above all, enjoy your writing and exhibit your creative skills!

Nuneaton Festival of Arts is pleased to welcome John back again in 2025.

### ORIGINAL WRITING ADULTS - Entrants must be Year 10 or above

Entrants are asked to adhere to the number of words indicated and add the number used to the entry form

<u>Original Writing Adults - Poetry</u>				Entry Fee
Festival class nos:				
630	Any subject - not topical e.g. Nature, feelings, observations. Up to 50 lines	18 & under		£2.50
631	Topical subject - of the moment, relevant to today. Up to 50 lines	18 & under		£2.50
632	Any subject - not topical e.g. Nature, feelings, observations. Up to 50 lines	Over 18		£3.00
633	Topical subject - of the moment, relevant to today Up to 50 lines	Over 18		£3.00
<u>Short Story Writing - Adults</u>				
634	A complete story within the given word limit	80-100 words	18 & under	£2.50
635	A fictional story with a basis of fact, possibly linked to a real event or thing	1500 words max	18 & under	£2.50
636	Any original subject, must not be a re-write of another story or event	1500 words max	18 & under	£2.50
637	A complete story within the word limit,	80/100 words	Over 18	£3.00
638	Fiction with basis of fact linked to a real event or things	2500 words max	Over 18	£3.00
639	Any original subject, must not be a re-write of another story or event	2500 words max	Over 18	£3.00
640	Magazine article: A magazine article needs to include up to date information. It is important to remember that the articles need to entertain as well as inform the reader.		16 years & over	£3.00
641	Essay - Open subject; An essay is an extended piece of writing that presents and supports a thesis or proposition. Research sources used should be listed.		Any age	£3.50
642	Essay - George Eliot Subject i.e. her work, influence, local links and importance, legacy etc.		Any age	£3.50
643	<b>Mavis Addison</b> organised the Original Writing section for many years and is missed by Festival members. This class is to honour her memory by asking writers to use the following as the beginning of a fictitious story of <b>no more than 150 words</b> , using the following:		Any age	£3.00
<b>“This is BBC Radio 4. Here is the six o’clock news .....</b> ”				

**ORIGINAL WRITING - ENTRY FORM JUNIOR**

**PRINT CLEARLY AND FILL IN THE ENTRY FORM OVERLEAF.**

Name of Entrant: Miss/Ms/Mstr .....

Address .....

..... Post Code .....

Tel No: ..... Email: .....

School Name (if applicable) .....

Method of Payment, please tick: \*\* Cheque  Cash  Bank transfer\*

**\*Add the prefix 'OWJ' to your payment reference. Sort code: 30-96-26 A/C: 80044268 \*\* Nuneaton Festival of Arts**

Total brought forward from page 2: £ .....

**NOTES:**

- a) **Original Writing entries:** Please send your completed form and fees to the section secretary by the closing date (see syllabus/website). If you require a receipt for your entry fee please enclose a sae
- b) **SCHOOLS and GROUPS** - list entrants overleaf. Photocopy the form if required.

**PRIVACY STATEMENT**

1. I have read and understand the Privacy Policy on page 66 of the main syllabus/website and agree that the Festival may use the information on this form in accordance with that Policy.

YES  NO

2. I have read and accept both the general and section rules of entry and I have read and agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the NFoA's safeguarding policy

YES  NO

3. From time to time we take photographs/video footage of participants and /or entries for use with promotions including but not limited to syllabus and programme production, newspaper articles, banners and flyers as well as websites, Facebook etc including use by KECS and other forms of social media.

**I agree to allow NFoA and KECS usage of photographic image +/- video for other purposes stated above.**

YES  NO

Signed .....(Entrant/parent/guardian/carer) Date .....

**Teachers of pupils under 18 years must sign below as well if appropriate**

I have ensured consent from all parents/guardians of pupils named on this entry form, except for the pupils indicated

Signed .....Teacher

Date .....

**ORIGINAL WRITING ENTRY FORM - JUNIOR cont.**

(Please indicate clearly entrants under 18 years for whom parental consent for photographs is not given)

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

Festival Class No:	Name (if different from entrant name)	Title of Work (if applicable)	Entry Fee
		<b>TOTAL:</b> £	
		carried forward to previous page	

**Results:** Will be available three days after adjudication on the Festival's website



ORIGINAL WRITING - ENTRY FORM ADULT

PRINT CLEARLY AND FILL IN THE ENTRY FORM OVERLEAF.

Name of Entrant: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms .....

Address .....

..... Post Code .....

Tel No: ..... Email: .....

School Name (if applicable) .....

Method of Payment, please tick: \*\*Cheque  Cash  Bank transfer\*

\*Add the prefix 'OWA to your payment reference. Sort code: 30-96-26 A/C: 80044268 \*\* Nuneaton Festival of Arts

Total brought forward from page 2: £ .....

NOTES:

- a) **Original Writing entries:** Please send your completed form and fees to the section secretary by the closing date (see syllabus/website). If you require a receipt for your entry fee please enclose a sae
- b) **SCHOOLS and GROUPS** - list entrants overleaf. Photocopy the form if required.

PRIVACY STATEMENT

1. I have read and understand the Privacy Policy on page 73 of the main syllabus/website and agree that the Festival may use the information on this form in accordance with that Policy.  
YES  NO
2. I have read and accept both the general and section rules of entry and I have read and agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the NFOA's safeguarding policy  
YES  NO
3. From time to time we take photographs/video footage of participants and /or entries for use with promotions including but not limited to syllabus and programme production, newspaper articles, banners and flyers as well as websites, Facebook etc including use by other forms of social media.  
**I agree to allow NFOA usage of photographic image +/or video for other purposes stated above.**  
YES  NO

Signed .....(Entrant/parent/guardian/carer) Date .....

Teachers of pupils under 18 years must sign below as well if appropriate

I have ensured consent from all parents/guardians of pupils named on this entry form, except for the pupils indicated

Signed .....Teacher Date .....

ORIGINAL WRITING ENTRY FORM - ADULT cont.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Festival Class No:	Name (if different from entrant name)	Title of Work (if applicable)	Entry Fee
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	£
		carried forward to previous page	

**Results:** Will be available three days after adjudication on the Festival's website