

STREET CAKE

experimental writing prize

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

We hope you'll find all the information you need below, but if you have a query that's not covered here, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us at: streetcakeprize@gmail.com

We'll be pleased to help!

Q: Can I make changes to my entries after they have been submitted?

A: No, changes cannot be made to entries after they have been submitted (see our rules). If you want to submit a more recent version of your entry, you will need to enter again and pay another entry fee.

Q: Do you accept entries as email attachments?

A: Yes. You must first pay via PayPal and send us the attachments in an email with the entry info in the body of the email (see rules).

Q: An earlier version of my poem / story was shortlisted in another competition but I've changed it since. Can I submit it to the streetcake prize?

A: If the work was not published, you did not receive a cash prize and it has been substantially altered, including a title change, then it would be eligible.

Q: My poem / story was long-listed in another competition. I didn't win a cash prize but it was published in an online anthology. Can I still submit it?

A: No. Previously published work is not eligible.

Q: How will you know which entries are mine if I don't write my name on them?

A: Entries will be given an identifying number by the administrators when received and will be linked to your personal details.

Q: Can I enter more than one poem or short story?

A: You can only make one entry in each category but you can enter up to 3 poems and up to 2 short stories.

Q: Can I use a pen name?

A: We do allow pseudonyms although we ask that entries be made using your real name. When the winners are selected we will check how they wish to be known when published in the streetcake anthology, online and on our social networks.

Q: Must entries be unpublished?

A: Yes. Entries that have already been published are not eligible.

Q: Does having a poem or story on my own blog count as previous publication?

A: Yes. It would not be eligible.

Q: I accidentally left my name or contact details on my entry. Will it be disqualified?

A: Yes. You would need to re-submit (refunds will not be made).

Q: Can I check you received my entries?

A: Online entries will be confirmed by email shortly after you submit, by both the payment provider and the streetcake prize. Due to the volume of entries, we are unable to check arrival in any other way.

Q: When are winners notified?

A: We will contact the winners and shortlisted writers during July 2019. The full results will be posted on the streetcake website and social media platforms in September 2019.

Q: How do I send an entry via the website?

A: You first need to pay for your entries via the PayPal button on the streetcake website. After this, you need to send an email to streetcakeprize@gmail.com with your PayPal reference / email, entry info and your entries (as an attachment). If you are entering in both poetry and short fiction, you will need to make two separate transactions and entries. Only one entry per genre (up to 3 poems and up to 2 short stories) will be accepted from each writer.

Q: What kind of file or format should I use for uploading my entry?

A: Allowed file types are .doc, .docx, .rtf, .pdf. Maximum allowed file size is 2Mb.

Q: Can I cut and paste my entry?

A: No, your entry will need to be a file type (as above) and emailed to the prize email address.

Q: What if the word count for my short fiction is over the limit of 2,500 words?

A: Your entry would be disqualified and no refund given. Please ensure you keep within the word limit.

Q: Will I receive a refund if my entry is disqualified?

A: No. No refunds will be given so please check our guidelines carefully before submitting.

Q: If one of my submissions is disqualified, will the rest of my submission still be considered?

A: Yes, we will consider any submissions that comply with our entry requirements. However, no refund or partial refund will be given for any disqualified work.

Q: Can I check the progress of my submission/s?

A: Unfortunately, we cannot give you any more information about your entry after we have sent an acknowledgement email. We will only contact you if you are one of our winners in the timeframe detailed in our Prize rules.

Q: Can I enter the prize if I do not have a current UK address?

A: Unfortunately, we are not able to accept entries from overseas writers at present. All writers must have a UK residence at the time of submitting and may be asked to provide proof at a later date.

Q: When will the competition winners be announced?

A: Competition winners are informed during July. The first official announcement will be made at the prize-giving on Wednesday 11th September 2019. Check the website after 16th September 2019 to see the results.

Q: Will the streetcake prize sift the entries before they send them to the judges?

A: Yes, we anticipate that we will receive too many entries for our named judges to be able to read them all. Our judging is fair and unbiased. The initial judging will be undertaken by the streetcake editors, Trini Decombe and Nikki Dudley, who have been running the streetcake magazine online for over ten years.

Q: Will the judges comment on my work?

A: No, judges are unable to comment on individual entries.

Q: Do you pass on my personal details to anyone else?

A: In accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, your details will be held securely and will not be released to any third party without your explicit and written consent. We may contact you regarding your entry and let you know about developments with the prize, unless you expressly asked to be removed from our mailing list.

Q: Does copyright remain with me?

A: Worldwide copyright of each entry remains with the author, but the streetcake prize will have the unrestricted right to publish the winning works in the winners' anthology, as well as publishing the works online and in any other relevant promotional material, including press releases.

Q: How can I be sure that my credit card payment is safe?

A: PayPal is a secure method of sending payments online. Check their website for details.