

Micropoetry Competition 2025

Terms and Conditions ("Rules")

General

1. The Micropoetry Competition 2025 (the "Competition") is organised by The University of Manchester ("UoM").
2. The Competition is open to all. You do not need to be associated to UoM to enter the competition.
3. Members of the judging panel or organising committee for the Competition are not eligible to enter.
4. The deadline for entries is 00.00 (UK time) on Saturday 21 June 2025. Entries received after this deadline will not be considered for the Competition.
5. One submission will be accepted per person. If multiple entries are submitted, only the first entry will be judged.
6. Entries will be submitted through an online form. Any issues with the form can be reported to salcnews@manchester.ac.uk
7. All entries must not exceed 280 characters. This includes spaces.
8. All poems submitted must be on the theme of 'Connections'. Participants are invited to consider what the theme means to them in its broadest sense. The judges will decide if the poem is relevant to the theme and will not consider poems which are deemed not relevant. The decision of the judging panel is final.
- 9a. The poem must be the entrant's own, original writing and must not have been published before the date of entry or be so before 30 June 2025.
- 9b. The poem must not have been created using artificial intelligence.
- 10a. Any poem which has been published on public websites, blogs or social media sites can be submitted, but must be taken down before the date of entry and must not be uploaded again before 30 June 2025. This must still be a piece of your own, original work.
- 10b. A poem that has been circulated via, or uploaded to, closed forums (e.g. for the purposes of workshopping on writing courses) can be submitted. Simultaneous submissions to other competitions and for publication are permitted, provided the work is not published elsewhere before 30 June 2025.
- 10c. If an entrant is found to have breached Rules 9a, 9b, 10a or 10b, their entry will be disqualified.
11. All entries must be typed or word-processed and written in English. Entrants should not include illustrations or artwork. Beyond these stipulations, presentation (e.g. font and spacing) is at the entrant's discretion.
12. Translations into English of work written in other languages can be accepted, provided that the source text is the entrant's own original work and has not been published before (in line with Rules 9 and 10 above).

13. All entries will be assigned an ID number and made anonymous upon receipt. Judges will not be privy to entrants' names during the reading and judging processes. Names will be reattributed to entries only after the shortlist and winners have been decided.

14. Amendments, corrections and substitutions cannot be made to entries after they have been submitted. No correspondence or discussion about amendments corrections or substitutions will be entered into.

15. By entering the Competition, the entrant understands and agrees that they are bound by the Rules. UoM reserves the right to disqualify any entry if it has reasonable grounds to believe that the entrant has breached any of these Rules.

16. UoM will act in accordance with current UK data protection legislation in relation to entrants' personal data.

17. The Competition and Rules will be governed by English Law and any dispute will be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales.

18. UoM reserves the right to change any aspect of the Rules at short notice. Such changes will be posted on the UoM Competition website as soon as is practicable.

19. Submission of an entry will be deemed to imply unqualified acceptance of the Competition's Rules.

In the event of any dispute regarding these Rules or any other matter relating to the Competition, the decision of UoM shall be final and no correspondence or discussion shall be entered into.

Judging and selection

20. A judging panel of practising writers will review all entries to create a shortlist. That shortlist will determine the winners and runners up prizes. The judges' decisions are final, and no correspondence about their decisions will be entered into.

21. UoM reserves the right to change the judging panel without notice.

22. The judges reserve the right not to award the prizes, if, in their opinion, such action is justified for any reason.

23. Subject to Rule 22, winners will be notified by end of July 2025.

Copyright and Permissions

24. The entrant will retain the copyright ownership of the poem they submit to the Competition.

By submitting the poem to the Competition, the entrant is deemed to grant to UoM a non-exclusive worldwide licence over the poem on a continuous basis and agrees that UoM may reproduce it, in full or abridged form, in or on: (a) printed UoM publications and journals; (b) UoM websites, online resources and other electronic forms; (c) public displays, including exhibitions and murals in UoM buildings and elsewhere; and (d) any other media. There will be no time limit on use of the entrant's poem by UoM.

25. The entrant agrees that UoM has the right to use their full name and identity for the purpose of identifying them as the author of their poem.

26. The entrant agrees that, if they are a competition winner, they will grant permission to UoM to photograph them while in or on UoM premises and that such photographs may be used for the same purposes as outlined in Rule 24.

Prizes

27. The Micropoetry Prize 2025 will award the following prizes:

One overall winner: £500 in either cash or vouchers (subject to agreement with the UoM Finance department about the best method).

Runners-up: Two runners up prizes, each to be awarded £250 in either cash or vouchers (subject to agreement with the UoM Finance about the best method).

Under-18 winner: A £25 book token.

Contact

1. Queries should be directed to School of Arts, Languages and Cultures communications team at salcnews@manchester.ac.uk