

SPIRITED ARTS

2022
ART &
POETRY

COMPETITION

The National Association of Teachers of RE

2022 Themes

Create your competition entry using poetry, drawing, painting, video, sculpture or other media!

<p>“We have far more in common with each other than that which divides us.”</p>	<p>The quote from Jo Cox MP introduces this theme which is about the question: are we one human race, despite our differences and divisions? We are all different, and all religions are different – but are we all the same too? Can we all be united? What holds humanity together? Is it faith? Hope? Love? Music? What threatens to tear us apart? How can we overcome the divisions that affect us? Use some specific religious ideas and quotes in this. Make a work of art that shows what unites us, brings us together, joins humans as one people and expresses our harmony. Use the disciplines of theology, but also of psychology and sociology to explore the questions and create your responses. We are delighted to once again partner with the Jo Cox Foundation to run this theme</p>
<p>God’s good earth? (“Beautiful World, wonderful God?”)</p>	<p>Are we spoiling God’s good earth? Does the Earth belong to God? Should we be thankful for it? Can we save it in time from the threats of climate change? The beauty of the earth is celebrated in many religions, but the human spoiling of the earth is a danger and a coming crisis. In this theme, learners are invited to explore ideas and beliefs about the natural world, human responsibility for the earth and ways of praying about climate justice. Great work will show some originality: the globe in God’s hands won’t win! Challenge pupils to use scripture quotations thoughtfully, but also the methods of scientific enquiry and moral study to develop deep answers and good writing to go with stunning images.</p>
<p>Searching for God</p>	<p>Pupils who are atheists, agnostics and believers in God can all respond to this theme. We invite expressions of their sense of the search for God. Where’s God? In your heart? In prayer? In the temple or the universe? Or is she hiding? Is he not there at all? Unreal? Imaginary? Looking for God, searching for him or her, matters to many, but how are we doing in finding God? Would you search with google or a ‘god-detector’? Is God on Instagram, TikTok or WhatsApp? Can God be found by prayer or by looking among the world’s suffering people? This popular theme produces great work where pupils use ideas from religions clearly: The Jewish Psalms 42 and 43 are where it starts – there are parallels in many scriptures. Use theological reflection as well as philosophical argument to make great work.</p>
<p>A view of the world</p>	<p>Our subject is increasingly called ‘Religion and Worldviews’ This theme invites pupils to express their own world view. That might include beliefs and values, identities and truths as you see them. A religion is one kind of worldview and so are Humanism, atheism and being spiritual but not religious. Encourage pupils here to think about their own view of the world – or maybe some older pupils will present a view of the world they disagree with! Looking through a lens, some tinted glasses or a microscope is a common image for trying to understand how our worldviews work – will your pupils use that, or some more original idea?</p>
<p>Celebrations: Big days and big ideas</p>	<p>This theme enables pupils to create work about religious festivals from Divali and Eid to Wesak or Vaisakhi, Easter or Shabbat, Christmas and Remembrance. Festivals can be annual – or weekly, celebrated in places of worship or on the streets. Encourage learners to connect their vision of today’s festivities to stories and memories from long ago, and to use scripture and other holy words in their work. Pieces of work might look at one festival, but some will be up for the challenge of looking at more than one celebration and noticing what’s similar and different, how excitement, memory, love and community are drawn together by big days and big ideas.</p>

Online submission form

www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/spirited-arts/spirited-arts-2022/submit-your-entry/

All entries must be submitted via our online form. This creates a log of all entries, and our mailing list for certificates and prizes. Visit our website (address above) to enter the details of all entries you are sending to us. The form should only take five minutes to complete.

You will need to provide the following details:

- School name
- School address
- Teacher name
- Email address
- Pupil name
- Pupil age
- Theme of entry (select from drop-down list)

Please post the artwork and write ups to us, attached to each other. We are not able to match these up for judging.

Alternatively you can email images and write ups to competition@natre.org.uk after completing the school and pupil details sections of the online form. Please ensure all file names have the pupil name, age and theme they are entering. We cannot judge entries that are not clearly labelled.

Entering the 2022 'Art in Heaven' Competition

Making your entries:

The competition is open to all pupils aged 3–19. Use the official submission form on the NATRE website. You must attach the label provided from the online form to all work. We receive thousands of pieces of work, so please take care to follow the submission instructions as we may not be able to accept any work entered incorrectly.

- Pupils should write briefly about their artwork. Some suggested prompts for this are provided, but free writing is encouraged. A single A4 sheet of 400 words is the maximum size for pupils' commentaries.
- Entries sent in to NATRE must be no larger than A3 in size. Good digital photos of 3D or larger entries are welcome.
- Schools may send **no more than 10 entries** to the national competition. School-based or local judging can take place before these are selected and sent.
- No entries will be entered into the competition unless they arrive at NATRE on or before **31 July 2022**.
- Entries via ICT, digital video and other multimedia approaches, as well as group entries are encouraged. Copyrighted music and images cannot feature on our website so please avoid these.
- All entries become the property of NATRE, the National Association for Teachers of RE. They may be used in web and other publishing materials. We're sorry we are not able to return them.
- Winning and a small number of commended entries will be added to the 'Art in Heaven' web gallery.

Prompts for pupils' writing

Pupils might use a selection of these. Approximately 8 makes a good set, but please don't use them all!

Adapt them freely for different age groups and in any way suitable. Written commentary on artwork should be under 400 words.

- The title I chose is ... because ...
- The deepest thing about my work is ...
- The religion that inspired my work is ...
- My RE art work ...
- This art work is spiritual because ...
- I think my work connects to religion because ...
- A quote from a holy book that fits with my work is ...
- I've been investigating ...
- This picture is all about ...
- My 'Art is Heaven' work is about ...
- In RE it is good to explore ... so ...
- Doing this work has made me think ...
- I've tried to show my thoughts/ideas/vision/feelings by ...
- I've discovered ...
- In my picture, you can see ...
- What I like best about my work is ...
- I hope people will notice ...
- This work has helped me to realise ...
- If you look carefully at the work, you will see ...
- My vision is ...
- To make the image, what I did was ...
- I like the theme I have been working on because ...
- My main ideas are ...
- My inspiration came from ...
- While I was making this, I thought a lot about ... and I would like to say ...

ENTRY CHECKLIST

Before sending any entries to NATRE please run through the following checklist to ensure your pupils' work is entered into the competition correctly. Logging all the artwork takes a long time, so any entries submitted incorrectly may not be included in the competition.

- **Online submission form has been completed**
- **If you are posting entries to us: every piece of artwork has been labelled with pupil name, age, theme and school details as well as the information provided from the online submission**
- **A hard copy of the submission form has been printed and enclosed with any postal entries**
- **Any CDs or USBs sent via post have full school details enclosed and all files contained are properly labelled**
- **All entries have been sent before 28 July 2022 to ensure they arrive at NATRE on or before 31 July 2022**

If you have any questions about sending your artwork please get in touch via email or by calling our office on 0121 458 3313