

# ARGYLL COLLECTION

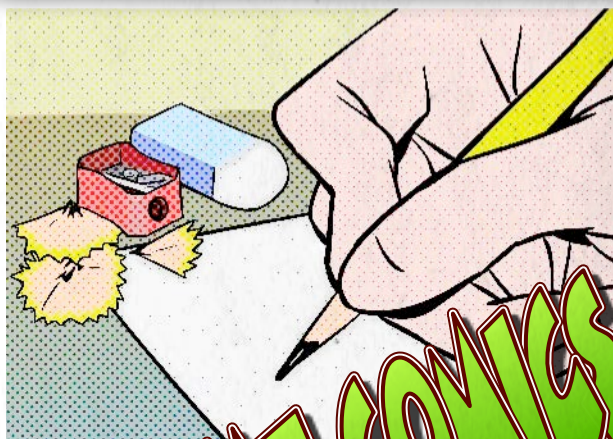
## 2014 WRITING COMPETITION



run by CAST &  
inspired by our  
Argyll Art  
Collection...

in its fourth  
year . . . .

supported by  
Scottish Book Trust



THIS YEAR'S THEME IS.....

# GOOD POEMS MAKE GREAT COMICS



## **The Argyll Collection Writing Competition 2014**

Organised by CAST with support from Scottish Book Trust

### **Who is the competition for?**

The competition is open to all primary schools within Argyll & Bute.  
Entries are invited from second level pupils.

### **What do I have to do?**

Encourage your pupils to write a narrative poem of any length inspired by one of the selected works from the collection and adapt the poem into a simple graphic novel format. (See below for hints and links)

Let your pupils choose one image from a group of 5 pictures.

The 4 images can be viewed by visiting the website **[www.argyllcollection.com](http://www.argyllcollection.com)** and going to the 'competition' section. Click on the image thumbnails at the bottom of the page then click 'next' to run through them. They can be displayed on your whiteboards/screens. Right click on any image to save to your computer.

Each school can submit up to 5 pieces, to be decided in any way you chose - why not run a mini competition?

### **Language, length and presentation**

Entries may be in English or Gaelic, be any length and can be hand drawn or computer generated using Comic Life or similar.

Entries must state name, school, age, and IMPORTANTLY picture catalogue number (seen under each image when you click on them).

### **When, where and how do I send my entries?**

All entries must be submitted by 5pm Friday 10th October 2014

email to [fiona.blakey@ea.argyll-bute.sch.uk](mailto:fiona.blakey@ea.argyll-bute.sch.uk)

or hard copies to CAST, Oban Education Office, Dalintart Drive, Oban PA34 4EF

Entries cannot be returned and schools are advised to keep a copy of their original work.

CAST and SBT reserve the right to publish entries for publicity, promotional and educational purposes but assure individual writers that full acknowledgement and/or credit will be given to them in the event of any such use.

The winners of the competition will be decided by a panel of judges appointed by CAST. The decision of the judges will be final.

The results of the competition will be announced by Friday 31 October 2014.

For any further information please contact:

Fiona Blakey, Cultural Coordinator, Oban Education Office

tel: 01631 569192 email: [fiona.blakey@ea.argyll-bute.sch.uk](mailto:fiona.blakey@ea.argyll-bute.sch.uk)

## Graphic Novel hints and tips

- Have a look at examples of comics and graphic novels. Look closely at how artists overlap text boxes, images and titles. Look at how they have framed text.
- Start by planning a basic layout by making thumbnails: thumbnails are small, sketchy versions of each frame. Use the thumbnails for your "plot breakdown" - decide how much of the poem you will tell in each panel.
- Lightly write in the lettering. You may be tempted to start drawing first, but you need to make sure there's room for your text boxes and word or thought balloons. Watch out for the position of the speech bubbles. A reader will naturally read a bubble on the top and on the left first. Keep that in mind when you position them for a dialogue.
- Add the words in lightly in pencil. Try to use a few different ways to frame text.
- Fill the box with a line drawing to illustrate the words.
- Colour in the drawings and go over the lines in pen
- Go over the lettering in pen
- Make the title colourful and eye-catching

## Look at the following resources on-line

<http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Comic-Book>

<http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/node/110337>

- level 2 resources to encourage pupils to use comic books as a fun learning tool!
- using graphic novels to develop writing, ICT and artistic skills.

<http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/learning/cpd/toolkits/graphic-novels>

- using graphic novels in the classroom

<http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/podcasts/video/stylistic-features-of-graphic-novels>

- stylistic features of graphic novels (for the more advanced)

## Also you could show this in class:

<http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/video/authors-live-the-etherington-brothers>

Authors Live broadcast with the Etherington Brothers. It's an hour long event about how to write a graphic novel and is incredibly fun and engaging, perfect for p4-7.

If you would like more information on comics and graphic novels, please contact Fiona Blakey, Cultural Coordinator [fiona.blakey@ea.argyll-bute.sch.uk](mailto:fiona.blakey@ea.argyll-bute.sch.uk).