

# Maggie's Poetry Competition 2016 - Rules

## General

The poem will consist of no more than 12 words and the title, '*12 Words of Autumn*', is **not** included in the word count.

Entrants may enter any number of poems, as long as each is submitted with an Entry Form and the appropriate entry fee. Fees can be paid by cheque or Credit/Debit Card. Do not send cash in the post.

Entrants may withdraw entries from the competition by notification in writing; entry fees will not be refunded.

The deadline date for entries is 12 midnight (UK time) on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016 (postal entries postmarked 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016 but received later will be accepted).

## Eligibility

Entries must be entirely the work of the entrant and by submitting you are confirming that the work is your own. Any evidence to the contrary will result in immediate disqualification.

Entries must never have been published, self-published, published on any website, blog or online forum, broadcast nor winning or placed (as in 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, runner up etc) in any other competition.

If your entry has been longlisted or shortlisted in other competitions, and provided it has not won a prize or been published, then it is eligible for the competition.

Employees of Maggie's or Waterstones cannot enter this competition.

## Entry Fees

**CATEGORY A (Under 12) - £3.50**

**CATEGORY B (12 to under 16) - £4.50**

**CATEGORY C (16 and older) - £5.50**

## Entry Format

Entries must be in English.

Postal entries must be written or printed on an official "Maggie's Poetry Competition 2016" entry form.

Entries are not returned, please keep a copy.

Amendments cannot be made to entries after they have been submitted, nor substitutions made. If entrants wish to correct errors they must submit a new entry, marked 'Final Version' on the title page, and enter again with payment of the entry fee. No correspondence or discussion about amendments will be entered into.

Please ensure that you use the correct postage. If insufficient postage is used, the Maggie's Poetry Competition Committee will not pay the additional postage required and the entry will be returned by the Post Office.

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### Receipt of entry

Postal entries - enclose a stamped addressed postcard marked 'ACKNOWLEDGEMENT' if you require acknowledgement of receipt of your entry.

It is not possible to confirm receipt of entries by phone or email.

### Results

Due to the high volume of entries we are only able to contact those entrants who have won the competition each year. If you do not hear from us by the end of October 2016 it means your entry has not won on this occasion.

### Copyright

Worldwide copyright of each entry remains with the author, but Maggie's will have the unrestricted right to publish the winning poems, in any relevant promotional material.

### Judging

The judges' decision is final and no individual correspondence can be entered into.

Judges are unable to comment on individual entries.

Judging is fair and unbiased – entries will be judged, anonymously by Zoe Vendituzzi.

### Prizes

The Maggie's Poetry Competition Committee will award the following prizes:

**CATEGORY A (Under 12) - £25.00 Waterstone's book token**

**CATEGORY B (12 to under 16) - £50.00 Waterstone's book token**

**CATEGORY C (16 and older) - £100.00 Waterstone's book token**

The Maggie's Poetry Competition Committee reserves the right to amend these rules where it is deemed necessary to do so.

### Sponsorship

The Maggie's Poetry Competition 2016 is sponsored by **Waterstones**. The Entry Form is sponsored by **rockliffe** graphic design, 2 Reres Road, Broughty Ferry, Dundee 07725 325540.

**SUBMISSION OF ENTRY IMPLIES ACCEPTANCE OF ALL THE RULES**

**FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE RULES MAY RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION**