The Legacy of Wilfred Owen – School Competition

Note that the closing date for submissions is 12 noon, Friday, 30 November 2018

As part of the 100th anniversary commemorations of the death of Wilfred Owen on 4th November 1918, the University of Oxford is running a national campaign called #OwenLastDays. Our campaign includes a national competition for schools to create an online response to Owen’s legacy. Widely regarded as one of the most important British poets of the First World War, Owen has been studied, read, and enjoyed by generations of students. Killed only a week before the Armistice at the age of 25, his poems such as ‘Dulce et Decorum est’ and ‘Strange Meeting’ have helped to shape (rightly or wrongly) many perceptions of the War. We would like to invite schools to participate in this discussion by entering our competition.

Don’t forget you can reuse all the material on Oxford’s First World War Poetry Digital Archive: Wilfred Owen Collection where there are numerous images and manuscripts all freely available (http://ww1lit.nsms.ox.ac.uk/ww1lit/collections/owen)!

Please read the following guidelines carefully before entering the competition:

1. Entry forms will be received from a school and teacher(s) only, not from individual students.
2. A school should submit a single Entry Form but this can contain details of multiple entries from different student groups. A school can submit as many entries as it likes under each year group.
3. Entries should be the work of the student entrant(s) only. Any additional assistance given by the teachers or others should be noted in the space on the Entry Form.
4. Entrants will be accepted from an individual or groups of 2-4 students. Entries from groups consisting of more than 4 students will not be considered.
5. Entrants must be resident in the United Kingdom.
6. Entrants may take part in both or either categories (Poster – category A; Performance – category B).
7. The final poster or performance should be mounted by the school on a publicly available web site or social media channel (e.g. YouTube). Please DO NOT send the poster or media file directly to the competition. It is the school’s responsibility to locate a suitable publicly-accessible online platform to host the entry and maintain it for the duration of the competition.
8. On the Entry Form details should be given (e.g. URL) on how to view the entry.
9. All Entry Forms should be accompanied by a copy of all the required consent forms. It is the responsibility of the school to gain parental consent for the content to be
made available according to the conditions of the competition. The consent form provided (also included on the online submission page and below) must be signed by parents/guardians of entrants under 18, and a copy (image or scan) emailed with the Entry Form. Typed signatures will not be accepted.

10. Completed Entry Forms and Consent Forms should be emailed (as Word .doc, .docx, PDF, or photo JPEG) to ww1collections@it.ox.ac.uk

11. All entries should be received by NOON on Friday 30th November.

12. The judges will take into account historical accuracy and creativity. The decision of the judges will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

The Competition Categories

We have two categories to enter (“Poster” and “Performance”), but schools can submit as many individual entries for each category as they wish.

A) POSTER: Create a poster based around a poem by Owen, placing it in its historical context.

For “Poster” entries, the poster should be designed as any size up to A0 size (118.9cm x 84.1cm) and should represent an attractive and informative presentation. Examiner comments routinely indicate that the best candidates manage to “to assimilate and internalise” the cultural and historical backgrounds of texts” into their analysis.

You should not send printed copies of the poster as part of your entry. Instead they should be made available online via a publicly available web site and the URL recorded on the Entry Form to allow the judges to see it. Posters can be presented in Word, PowerPoint, as PDFs, or as JPEG or TIFF images.

And/or

B) PERFORMANCE: Record (video or audio) a 3-minute (maximum) response to theme ‘The Legacy of Wilfred Owen’.

This category is entirely open and can be freely interpreted. It could be a new piece of drama or music, a discussion, a personal reflective performance, a documentary… anything that captures your response to the impact and importance of Owen’s poetry over the years. We will not be expecting broadcast quality films, just good content!

You should not send media files as part of your entry. Instead they should be made available online via a publicly available web site and the URL noted. Recordings can be presented in any standard video format (.avi, .mov, .mp4, .mpg, .wmv, etc) or standard audio (.wav, .mp3, .aiff).
For both categories we welcome entries from any student or student teams under the following age groups:

- Years 7-9 (ages 11-14)
- Years 10 and 11 (ages 14-16)
- Years 12 and 13 (ages 16-18)

**Prizes**

One single prize of £50 Amazon Vouchers, and a copy of *Wilfred Own: Poems* and *Three Poets of the First World War: Ivor Gurney, Isaac Rosenberg, Wilfred Owen* (generously donated by Penguin Classics) will be awarded in each age group to the winning entry for Category A “Poster”. All prize-winning students will also receive a certificate.

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**Any Questions?**

Email us at: [ww1collections@it.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ww1collections@it.ox.ac.uk)