

POETRY FROM THE PLATFORMS

**Submissions are invited for entries to the Bolton Station Community Partnership (BSCP) 2020 Poetry Competition.
Theme – THE JOURNEY**

Please read the guidance carefully. There are two parts to the competition.

1. Over 25 competition

Open for submissions 1st June 2020

Deadline for Submissions 31st August 2020

Entry will be limited to past and present Bolton residents, workers, and students who are 25 years old or over.

Each entry should be no more than **30 lines long** and should be written specifically for this competition. Previously published work, in print or on-line, will be ineligible. You can submit **one poem**.

Four winning poets will have their work printed onto dibond boards and mounted on the concrete pillars on Bolton Station platforms. Judges reserve the right to ensure a balance of poetic styles, themes and viewpoints in their selection.

Up to fifty entries aged both over and under 25, including the winners, will be included in an anthology to be published in **January 2021**. All 50 poets will receive a complimentary copy and be invited to a launch event run in partnership with the University of Bolton and Live from Worktown.

2. Under 25 competition

Open for submissions 1st September 2020

Deadline for Submissions 30th November 2020

Entry will be limited to children, young people and young adults under 25 who are past and present Bolton residents.

There are two age categories for the under 25 competition - under 16 and 16 -24

Young poets are invited to submit work on the same terms as above, and four will have their poem mounted on Bolton Station Platforms. The winners from the under 25 competition will also have their work in the anthology mentioned above. Young poets are additionally invited to illustrate their poem and the selected poems/art works will then form the basis of an exhibition in the Platform Gallery, a fully functional Art Exhibition space on Platform 5.

Judging for both competitions

All eligible entries will be judged by a panel of practising and published poets and Creative Writing staff at the University of Bolton. Their decision will be final and no feedback will be offered on unsuccessful submissions.

How to submit

We are looking for poems that reflect the theme of **'The Journey'** in all its interpretations. It can be a real journey or a personal one. Many significant journeys have taken place when travelling to or from Bolton Railway Station, so your poem might reflect an experience of this.

Entrants should be living, working or studying in Bolton. Former residents, workers or students may submit but should indicate their links to the town with dates. By 'Bolton' we mean the wider Borough including its towns and villages.

On-line: Entries should be submitted by email. The poem should be included in the main body of the email. Also include your personal details i.e. name, date of birth, title of piece submitted and any relevant supplementary information about your Bolton connection (**max. 50 words**).

Entries should be typed double spaced, minimum font size 11, preferably Times New Roman, Arial or Calibri.

Schools, colleges and young people's organisations may submit a number of entries in one batch on behalf of under 25s. Please ensure the covering mail or letter includes each entrant's name, date of birth, and the title of poem. **Illustrated poems from the under 25 category should be a maximum size of A3 (29.7 x 42.0 cm.) and can be sent by post.** Schools, colleges and youth organisations may contact the organisers to discuss this further at – **boltonstationcdp@gmail.com**

We are hoping to include about 50 pieces of work in the anthology. It is unlikely that all work submitted can be chosen but we are not able to offer feedback on submissions that are unsuccessful.

We will inform you if you have been successful by **30th September 2020 for 25s and over** and by **31st December 2020 if you are under 25**. All work published will remain the copyright of the author and no use will be made of the work other than on the Station Platform pillars, in the anthology, or in the Platform Gallery without the express permission of the author.

25 and over submissions should be emailed to dave@livefromworktown.org by noon on Monday 31st August 2020.

Under 25 submissions should be emailed to boltonstationcdp@gmail.com by noon on Monday 30th November 2020.

Editorial policy: the editors have no wish to censor submissions but reserve the right to refuse material that they judge to be actually or potentially offensive, racist, sexist or homophobic. Similarly, whilst recognising that vernacular and dialect have distinct and non-standard grammar and spelling, the editors reserve the right to standardise obvious misspellings and grammatical inaccuracy, in the interests of producing an industry-standard publication and display.

Data: Your data will only be used for the purposes of the competition and will be deleted after 6 months of the closing date to give time for judging and contacting winners.