Cannon Shorts 2027

Cannon Poets Poetry Competition

For poems with a maximum of 10 lines

THREE PRIZES OF £100

Entries: from 1st November 2026 to 28th February 2027
Entrance fee £3 per poem
Entries online at
`https://cannonpoets.org.uk/competitions`

We are asking for poems of no more than 10 lines. Blank lines, titles, subtitles, dedications and epigraphs are not counted as lines.

The judge is a member of Cannon Poets. All entries will be judged anonymously.

£100 will be awarded to each of three different winners.

The winning three poems will appear in The Cannon's Mouth and later on the Cannon Poets' website.

Entries: An entry will consist of at least one 10 line poem. Please ensure that each poem has its own title. There is no limit to the number of entries providing the fees are paid. The entry fee is £3.00 for each poem. You can only enter by using the online entry form at `http://www.cannonpoets.org.uk/competitions` then follow the instructions. Please read carefully the Rules of Entry here.

The closing date for entries is 28th February 2027 11:59 GMT

Cannon Shorts: RULES OF ENTRY

1. The competition opens on 1st November 2026 and the closing date is midnight (UK time), 28th February 2027.
2. The competition is open to anyone aged 18 or over at the time of entering.
3. All entries must be in English. (International entries are welcome.)
4. Under no circumstances can alterations be submitted once poems have been entered, but an amended/improved version could be submitted on payment of the appropriate fee.

5. The judge's decision is final and neither the judge nor Cannon Poets will enter into any correspondence.
6. No person involved in the judging process is eligible to enter the Competition.
7. No entrant may win more than one prize.
8. There is no limit on the number of entries a single entrant can make.
9. Entries will not be returned, so please keep a copy.
10. All entries are judged anonymously and the poet's name must not appear on the poem itself.
11. All poems must have a title and must have NO MORE THAN 10 lines (excluding title).
12. Entries can be on any subject.
13. Poems must be the original work of the entrant.
14. Entries must not have been published, self-published, published on a website or broadcast.
15. Each poem entered costs £3.00.
16. Payments must be made in £ sterling. Entries accompanied by payment in a currency other than £ sterling will not be accepted.
17. Go to www.cannonpoets.org.uk/cannonshorts and follow the instructions
18. Payment and submissions may be made directly from the site by Paypal or credit/ debit card.
19. There is no facility for submitting by separate email or post.
20. Each poem should be word processed in no smaller than 12 point font size. Do not include your name with your poem(s).
21. Prize winners will be announced by no later than 31st May 2027.
22. Authors of the winning poems, by entering the competition, grant Cannon Poets the right to publish and/or broadcast their poem for one year from date of presentation. Winning poems and special mentions will be published in The Cannon's Mouth and later on the Cannon Poets website. Use of the poems elsewhere during this time is subject to acknowledgement of the poem's success in the Cannon Poets Cannon Shorts Contest. Copyright of each poem stays with the author.

Cannon Poets Established in 1983, Cannon Poets meet monthly, alternating between in-person gatherings in Moseley, Birmingham and on Zoom. If you would like to join in with the meetings, please contact Cannon Poets Honorary Secretary Martin Underwood: martin@cannonpoets.org.uk Cannon Poets also arrange workshops, readings and produce a quarterly magazine, The Cannon's Mouth. To view other competitions and see more information about the activities of Cannon Poets, please see our website: www.cannonpoets.org.uk.