



Announcing BMAF 2019 – Annual Creative Writing Competition...

NEW for 2019 - 500 Word 'Flash Fiction' Challenge

A Flabby Tabby, a Sat Nav with a mind of its own, Dementia, a letter to Donald Trump, the excitement of Christmas Eve, 'I Hate Vegetables' and a short story called 'The Generation Game' all have one thing in common. They were category winners in the 2018 Basingstoke Music and Art Festival's (BMAF) Creative Writing Competition.

The 2019, 57th running of the annual writing competition, launches in September with an entry closing date of Monday 10th December 2018. Cups and trophies will be awarded to the winners at the Awards Ceremony on Sunday 17th March 2019 (2.30pm) at Basingstoke's Queen Mary's College. The competition is open to children (School Years 1 to 13) and adults alike.

As well as the usual creative writing categories of Letters, Articles, Short Stories, Script Writing, Poetry and Sonnets, the 2019 syllabus sees the introduction of a NEW 'Flash Fiction' 500 words category. Flash Fiction is a relatively new form of writing and is perhaps best personified by the highly successful, Chris Evan's inspired, BBC Radio Two 500 word writing challenge for children.

Launched in collaboration with [Destination Basingstoke](#), the new BMAF competition category is open to adults as well as children. Entrants will need to produce an original, 500 word, fictional story. The added challenge, unique to the BMAF event, is that the 500 word story should have a Basingstoke (or North Hampshire) setting. However, the real challenge, in a work of such extreme brevity, will be to ensure completeness in respect of both character and plot development and within the 500 words, to hint at a much larger back story.



Entries for all categories are welcomed from writers and budding authors irrespective of where they live within the United Kingdom. Over the years, BMAF (a registered local charity) has gained a reputation for being the literary and art world's 'Friendly Festival'. The Creative Writing competition is no exception and unique in that ALL entrants receive adjudicator feedback as well as a personally signed certificate.

Full details of the 2019 Creative Writing Competition can be viewed on the 2019 BMAF website (launches 1st September <http://basingstokemusicandarts.org.uk/>). Alternatively, please contact the competition's Section Secretary, Tony Corbin, via email at: BMAFCW@kempshott.plus.com or leave a message on 07801 166223 to obtain a downloadable or printed copy of the 2019 BMAF Creative Writing Syllabus.

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