**2020 VATE writing competition**

Students and teachers are invited to write and submit a short story inspired by the theme **Stories for Strange Times**. There are three categories available in the competition:

**Years 7-8 students | Years 9-10 students | Teachers**

Entries of no more than 1000 words are due by **5pm Monday 1 June 2020** and should be emailed to education@vate.org.au The competition is open to all schools who have 2020 VATE organisational membership. For all queries, email Ernest: educationofficer@vate.org.au

**General details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| School |  |
| Email |  |
| Phone number/s |  |
| Title of story |  |
| Category |   |

**Teacher endorsement (for student entries)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Email |  |
|  | I confirm that (student’s name)is a student at (school)and that the short story submitted is the student’s own work.Date: |

**Permission**

|  |
| --- |
| I understand that all stories submitted may be used by VATE in print and digital publications and distributed to VATE members and associated via the VATE website, marketing collateral and other social media platforms.Signed: Date: |

**Conditions of entry**

* Only Years 7-10 students and teachers from schools who have 2020 VATE organisational membership are eligible to enter.
* Only one entry is permitted per student and/or teacher.
* Each short story submitted must address the theme: ‘Stories for Strange Times’.
* There are three available categories: Years 7-8 students; Years 9-10 students; teachers. You may only submit an entry in the category that clearly corresponds to you. You may not submit an entry in more than one category and if you do, you will be automatically disqualified from the writing competition.
* Entries should be typed and formatted in 12pt Arial font with double line spacing.
* Entries will be accepted from Monday 20 April until **5pm Monday 1 June 2020**. No late submissions will be accepted.
* All entries must be accompanied by a fully completed entry form. No entries will be accepted without a completed entry form.
* All short story entries and entry forms should be emailed to education@vate.org.au
* Entries must be your own original work. This means that your work must not be written by, or in conjunction with, your friends, family, teachers or parents.
* Plagiarism will not be tolerated. You will be automatically disqualified from the competition if any plagiarised work is submitted.
* Stories that are currently entered in other competitions are **not** eligible to be entered.
* Entries will be read and judged by the VATE Education staff.
* Judges decisions will be final and once the winners have been announced no correspondence will be entered into.
* A prize of $150 book voucher will be available for the winner of each category.
* Winners will be announced via VATE eCommunication.
* Entrants may be asked to assist in media publicity in the form of comments, online interviews and/or photographs.
* Submitted material will not be returned, only selected records are kept.
* Copyright remains with the author, however, VATE reserves the right to have any entry published, reproduced or publicised for promotion purposes.