



# OUTWORD BOUND

OutWord Bound is an LGBT-themed writing competition for young people aged 11-16 in York and the surrounding area.

Entrants are asked to write a piece of fiction, non-fiction or poetry of up to 1,000 words, focusing on any aspect of LGBT life. Some ideas include:

- The theme of LGBT History Month (February) 2018: “Geography: Mapping the World”
- Other LGBT history topics
- Personal experiences
- Coming out
- Bullying
- Equality and diversity related to LGBT issues

The competition aims to celebrate York’s diverse community and combat homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying in schools.

The competition will take place throughout LGBT History Month, opening in November 2017 and closing on 28th February 2018.

OutWord Bound is generously supported by Aviva and the York LGBT Forum.

For more information see <https://yorklgbtforum.org.uk/outword-bound-lgbt-writing-competiton/>

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## Competition Rules

1. The competition is organised by York LGBT Forum and York LGBT History Month supported by Aviva.
2. Entry to this competition is open to school pupils aged 11-16 attending schools in York and the surrounding area.
3. Entrants are required to write a short story, essay, or poem of no more than a thousand words (no minimum) that explores themes of LGBT life. Topics can include, but are not limited to:
  - a. The LGBT History Month 2018 theme: "Geography: Mapping the World"
  - b. Other LGBT history topics
  - c. Personal experiences
  - d. Coming out
  - e. Bullying
  - f. Equality and diversity related to LGBT issues.
4. In the event that entrants wish to write about people that they know (other than public figures or celebrities) they must obtain written permission from the people concerned if they wish to use real names, or if the people could be identified. Entrants are advised that without such written permission they should ensure that the people they are writing about cannot be identified. Teachers are requested to guide pupils regarding these terms and conditions. York LGBT Forum and York LGBT History Month accept no responsibility if entrants ignore these terms and conditions.
5. Entrants do not need to identify on the LGBT spectrum. It is especially desirable that non-LGBT pupils are encouraged to enter.
- 6. Entries can be submitted any time from November 2017 to midnight on 28th February 2018.** Unfortunately submissions received outside this timeframe will not be considered.
7. Entrants can only enter individually. Only one entry per person is permitted. If more than one entry is submitted, only the entrant's first submission will be considered.
8. Entries can be in any style or form, fiction or non-fiction, but must be in English.
9. All entries should be emailed to [outwordboundinyork@gmail.com](mailto:outwordboundinyork@gmail.com) or handed in at school to a nominated member of staff.

10. Entrants may withdraw entries from the competition by notification in writing to the above email address.

11. All entries must be accompanied by a completed entry form counter-signed by an appropriate teacher who has approved the entry and agreed to these Terms and Conditions.

12. Entries cannot be returned, so please retain a copy. Unsuccessful entrants will not be contacted in respect of their entry and no feedback will be given.

13. All entries must be the original work of the entrant and must not infringe the rights of any other party. York LGBT Forum and York LGBT History Month accept no responsibility if entrants ignore these terms and conditions.

14. Entries must not contain defamatory, obscene, offensive, or any other unsuitable material and teachers are requested to guide pupils regarding these terms and conditions.

15. Entrants retain the copyright in their entries, but grant to York LGBT Forum and York LGBT History Month a royalty-free licence to publish, broadcast (across all media) and post the entry online and includes all the necessary rights and permissions to enable York LGBT Forum and York LGBT History Month to award the prizes and complete the administration of this competition.

16. Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

- a. Originality
- b. Enjoyment
- c. Language
- d. Relevance to LGBT issues.

17. The competition will be judged by a panel of voluntary judges chosen by York LGBT Forum and York LGBT History Month for their relevant expertise, but independent of the participating schools, York LGBT Forum and York LGBT History Month. Detailed guidelines on how to judge the entries according to the criteria will be agreed between the judges, York LGBT Forum and York LGBT History Month.

18. A list of prize winners will be sent to all participating schools and the prizes will be awarded at a ceremony.

19. Prize winners unable to attend the awards ceremony will need to make an arrangement with York LGBT Forum and York LGBT History Month to receive their prize.

20. Winners will be able to choose vouchers from a number of local providers. The following providers have been selected in previous years:

- a. City Screen Picturehouse York
- b. Love2Shop
- c. iTunes
- d. Restaurant Choice

21. The prizes will be awarded on the following basis:

- a. First prize: £100 vouchers.
- b. Second prize: £60 vouchers.
- c. Third prize: £40 vouchers.
- d. Judges Special Commendation Prize of £100 vouchers (or two awards of £50 vouchers each).

22. York LGBT Forum and York LGBT History Month reserve the right to change, or vary the prizes on offer without giving prior notice.

23. The decision of the judges, York LGBT Forum and York LGBT History Month is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

24. York LGBT Forum and York LGBT History Month reserve the right to disqualify any entry which breaches these terms and conditions.

25. York LGBT Forum and York LGBT History Month reserve the right to amend these Terms and Conditions or cancel this competition at any stage, if deemed necessary in its opinion, or circumstance arise outside of its control.

26. York LGBT Forum and York LGBT History Month, the judges, or any person or organisation associated with this competition cannot accept any responsibility whatsoever, however caused, for an entry being lost or not properly registered or recorded. Proof of sending is not proof of receipt.

27. All publicity will acknowledge York LGBT History Month and York LGBT Forum.

28. These terms and conditions are governed by the laws of England and Wales.

## Guidance for teachers

We hope that you will consider publicising OutWord Bound among pupils at your school. This pack includes an entry form. The competition is suitable either for self-guided individual entries or for a whole-class initiative as a writing exercise. If you would like representatives from LGBT History Month or the York LGBT Forum to assist with any writing classes, we have a number of people available with academic backgrounds who would be happy to assist.

As well as providing an incentive for students to engage in creative writing, OutWord Bound is designed to celebrate diversity and tackle homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying. As you are probably aware, Ofsted requires schools to tackle prejudice and bullying in this area. The Ofsted report No place for bullying (June 2012) sets out some of the strategies used by schools, including amending and enhancing the curriculum to teach openly about LGBT issues alongside other aspects of equality and diversity (pp. 44-51). Additionally this competition helps schools to meet obligations under the National Curriculum with regard to inclusion and sex and relationship education.

The rules provide all the necessary information for pupils to successfully enter the competition. We ask teachers to please read the rules carefully and guide pupils through the competition.

If pupils have questions about the competition, or request extra guidance which you feel uncertain about, please don't hesitate to email us on [outwordboundinyork@gmail.com](mailto:outwordboundinyork@gmail.com).

Some pupils may be worried that they will be labelled by entering the competition. It is important for teachers to stress to pupils that the competition is open to all pupils regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity and that assumptions should not be made about another pupil simply because they choose to enter the competition. In fact, it is especially desirable that pupils enter who don't identify within the LGBT spectrum.

Resources for teachers, parents and young people are available from:

- [http://www.stonewall.org.uk/at\\_school/education\\_resources/default.asp](http://www.stonewall.org.uk/at_school/education_resources/default.asp)
- <http://www.schools-out.org.uk/>
- <http://lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/> (sponsors include NUT and NASUWT)
- <http://www.the-classroom.org.uk> (lesson plans created by Schools OUT)
- <https://uk.pinterest.com/yorklgbt/youth-lgbt-resources/>

We would like to assess the impact of our project if we can, so at the end of the competition we may request teachers to assist us by providing feedback and filling in a short survey.

## **Information on competition organisers**

OutWord Bound is jointly organised by the **York LGBT Forum and York LGBT History Month**.

### **York LGBT Forum**

[www.yorklgbtforum.org.uk](http://www.yorklgbtforum.org.uk)

The York Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Forum was established in 2006 to act as a strong and unified voice for the local LGBT community. The Forum recently gained charity status in the summer of 2015 and was a Lord Mayor's Charity for 2016/7.

The Forum is made up of a number of sub groups. Each group is tasked with supporting activities and initiatives in association with the groups theme. The schools sub group aims to source & provide access to a multitude of LGBT related resources.

Whilst our resource bank is open and available to all, our hope is that the following groups in particular will benefit from the resources available:-

- LGBT people
- Schools
- Parents of LGBT people
- Groups
- Agencies
- The wider community

The group are keen to provide a consultation mechanism and support network to schools and other agencies to help tackle common issues. Through making our resources available to all, we aim to enhance the health, well being, confidence and self esteem of LGBT people. For non LGBT people, our aim is to raise awareness and make for a more informed society when it comes to the current issues affecting the LGBT community.

Email: [yorklgbtforum@gmail.com](mailto:yorklgbtforum@gmail.com)

**York LGBT History Month**  
**[www.yorklgbthistory.org.uk](http://www.yorklgbthistory.org.uk)**

York LGBT History Month brings together organisations from across the city to create a programme of events during February. Our aim is to increase public awareness of the place of LGBT people in history. (Side note: LGBT stands for lesbian, gay, bi and trans, but we take it to include any non-heterosexual sexual orientation and any non-cisgender and/or non-binary gender identity, gender expression or sex.)

We bring to light stories that might traditionally have been ignored, working to develop inclusivity, challenge stereotypes and promote understanding. Our programme of events provides a wide variety of ways for the public to learn about these stories.

We also work with schools to help them celebrate LGBT History Month and include LGBT history in their lesson plans. We can support you to develop your plans and produce free resources tailored to your needs.

Past work with schools includes:

- Producing a set of posters featuring historical “LGBT heroes” from each subject area
- Providing assembly speakers on the topic of LGBT History Month
- Supporting schools to develop PSHE lessons on LGBT issues

Can we help your school celebrate LGBT history? Please get in touch, or check out the school outreach pages on our website!

We are also seeking volunteers to expand our work with schools, so if you would like to be involved, please get in touch.

Contact: Kit Heyam (Outreach Coordinator)

Email: [kit@yorklgbthistory.org.uk](mailto:kit@yorklgbthistory.org.uk)

## OutWord Bound 2018 Entry Form

LGBT-themed writing competition for young people aged 11-16 in the York area

Name	
Age	
School	
School Year	
Postal Address	
Email Address	
Title of Piece	
Word Count	

### Your Prize Choice

If your piece is selected as a winning entry, please confirm what voucher choice you would like from the following options:

- Picture House
- The Restaurant Choice
- Love 2 Shop
- iTunes

### Agreement and Signature

I certify that this is my own work and I have read the rules and agree to the terms and conditions.

**Pupil's name (printed)**.....

**Signature**.....

**Date**.....

**Teacher's name (printed)**.....

**Signature**.....

**Date**.....