

Screen Your Story

This is a competition to find the best young story tellers in the region and give them the chance to be published and even to have their story made into a film. There are four age-related categories: under-8s, 9-11s, 12-14s 15 upwards. Students in each category are invited to write a story, no more than 500 words for the first two age groups and no more than 1000 words for the second two groups. The stories will go before a panel of judges made up of writers and teachers and the best story for each school in each age group will be published by Unicorn Press in a special collection.

These winning stories will go to a celebrity panel of judges and the best story in each age group will be made into a film to be shown at the Olympic Cinema in a premiere on 6th July 2015. The panel will also select an overall winner from the films.

The celebrity panel will be made up from comedian and actor. Jack Whitehall currently starring in 'Bad Education'; actress Patricia Hodge who plays Miranda's mother in the BBC sitcom 'Miranda', television presenter Ade Adepitan; impressionist Alistair McGowan, Jill Green producer of 'Foyle's War' and Stanley Tucci star of 'The Devil Wears Prada' and 'The Hunger Games'. The four winning stories will be filmed by a professional film company headed by Christopher Swann, BAFTA, Emmy and Prix d'Italia winner so the stories will be in safe hands!

Students wishing to enter must register with their parents consent by 30th November 2014.

The stories should be completed by the end of February and the winners will be announced at the beginning of April when the publication process will start. The four overall winners in the age categories will be announced at the end of April and filming will start in May.

The project is in aid of a charity cmvaction. This charity has two aims, first to make people aware of this little known but deadly virus and second to support families whose children have been disabled as a result of contracting the virus in utero. We ask all entrants to make a donation to the charity via the charity's website. The donation doesn't have to be huge - it can be a matter of pence if that is all the entrant feels able to contribute. More important is that they look at the web site and learn a little about that virus. This is a very exciting opportunity for young authors to be published or even see their story made into a film. Unicorn Press is a well-established and distinguished publisher and the Olympic Cinema offers the wonderful Screen One for the stories made into films.