

## **Folk.Exchange**

### **Short Story Competition**

Involving students in activities related to intangible cultural heritage, especially at school level is an effective way to preserve tradition and ethnicity. Short stories are integral to literary achievements of any community. It stores important information about the culture and society. With an objective of ICH preservation Folk.Exchange conducts short story competitions at schools, colleges and universities. The competition involves the institution, the authority of the institution, and students. The person coordinating with Folk. Exchange with regard to the competition as the mediator between the institution and the company is key to this project. She/He is deemed as the Project Coordinator of Folk.Exchange for the particular community and the project.

#### **Project Description**

Short Story Collection starts with the competition at schools, colleges or universities. The stories are written in the native language using the native script of the community. The stories are translated to English after the competition. Stories in both the native language and English are uploaded on Folk.Exchange website. Images of the student writers, the coordinator and the competition are uploaded on the website.

#### **I. Competition**

The coordinator selects an educational institution that has an adequate number of students who are fluent in the native language in both reading and writing. A competition is held with a minimum of 20 students and maximum 30 students. The prize and award of the competition are determined by the coordinator and Folk.Exchange. Although the amount of prize money can vary within a limited range, a trophy and books to winners are provided in all competitions. Books to all competitors are also provided in consultation with the coordinator.

Folk.Exchange bears all expenses involved in the competition. This includes:

1. Prize money
2. Mementos and Trophy
3. Books for prize distribution
4. Paper to write
5. Expenses to promote the competition

The coordinator may suggest an entry fee for the competition from students. It is determined in consultation with the authority of the institution that will conduct the competition. However, the fee cannot be more than 20 rupees per student. Folk.Exchange presents this amount to the authority and the coordinator as a token for their cooperation.



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### **A. Guidelines for the Competition**

1. The competition should have a minimum of 20 and a maximum of 30 participants.
2. A minimum of 2 judges and a maximum of 3 judges determine the winners of the competition.
3. The coordinator can also act as a judge of the competition.
4. The judges should determine a single 1st prize winner, a second prize winner and a third prize winner.
5. The distribution of the prizes can be done in public within the campus of the institution on any convenient day as determined by the authorities.
6. The time for competition is a maximum of 3 hours.
7. The organizers must provide photographs, complete name and age of each participant to Folk.Exchange. They will be published on the website along with the stories they wrote.
8. Simple photograph clicked on a cell-phone is adequate. Participants do not need to provide a passport photograph.

### **B. Guidelines for Story Writing**

1. The short stories will be written strictly in native or the traditional language.
2. The short stories will be written strictly using the native or the traditional script. If the language does not have a script, participants can write using another script they prefer. However, all participants must write in the common script in a competition.
3. The length of a story must not be less than 700 words. There is no upper limit for the number of words or length of a story.
4. Only a complete story is considered for evaluation.
5. The storyline must not include vulgar, violent, sexual and other topics that are anti-social in the descriptions.
6. Relating the stories to folk lifestyle and native society is anticipated for determining the winner.
7. Stories can be under the genres of fantasy, suspense and thrillers, romance, social, and day-to-day life.
8. Short stories can include folk tales. A short story can be a fable, an anecdote, a feghoot or a flash fiction.
9. Participants must write their complete name and age on the sheet provided for writing.
10. The short stories must have no or only negligible grammatical errors.



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## **II. Digitization and Translation**

Folk.Exchange will transform the short stories to digital format. The hardcopy of the short stories will be typed on digital tools like MS Word or Google Docs. The short stories are translated to English from the native language. Folk.Exchange bears all cost of typing and translation. The coordinator assists in finding the person to translate the stories. She/He also determines the cost of translation. The amount of money will be provided to the coordinator or the translator directly. The coordinator will provide the short stories in both native and English language to Folk.Exchange. The coordinator will also provide images of the competition including the photos of each participant, their complete name and age.



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