



DUNEDIN'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Teen creative writing competition in Dunedin

In spite of the current lockdown caused by the coronavirus outbreak, Dunedin (New Zealand), a UNESCO Creative City of Literature, continues to provide space for writers and poets to bring out and express their creative and imaginative world.

To support teen's adjustment to the ongoing period of isolation, the city of Dunedin launched a teen writing competition. Organized in partnership with the Dunedin Public Art Gallery and the city's Public Libraries, the contest coincides with the public art exhibition 'A Land of Granite: McCahon and Otago', one of New Zealand's key 20th century painters.

Drawing inspiration from the exhibition, the competition invites teen writers to share a fiction piece of up to 750 words inspired by some of Colin McCahon's artwork depicting Otago landscapes (Dunedin region). The writing competition was opened to all high school students aged from 9 to 12 years. One of Dunedin's well-known writer Robyn Maree Pickens, will judge the competition.

Home to many significant national libraries and book collections, the city with its beautiful landscape has inspired many poets and writers in the past including poet Thomas Bracken, author of New Zealand's national anthem, to submerge into the literary world. The competition has allowed budding young writers to get inspired and express their thoughts and vision in a creative manner.

To know further, kindly visit the page by clicking on the link below:

- <https://dunedin.art.museum/exhibitions/present/a-land-of-granite/>
- <https://dunedin.art.museum/art-at-home/teen-writing-competition/>
- <https://robynmareepickens.com/about/>