

# The John Betjeman Young People's Poetry Competition £1000 Prize

Sponsored by John Murray (Publishers)

The John Betjeman Young People's Poetry Competition was inaugurated in 2006 to celebrate the centenary of one of the nation's best loved poets. Following its success, John Murray Publishers) are now offering an annual prize of £1000, (£500 to the winner and £500 to the English department of their school). The winner will also receive a full set of John Betjeman's works in print.

The competition is open to 11-14 year olds living anywhere in the British Isles and the Republic of Ireland. Entrants are limited to one poem each about their local surroundings or any aspect thereof, whether it be a house, a street, a garden, a park, a city or a wider landscape. The spirit behind the competition is to encourage young people to understand and appreciate the importance of 'place'. We are not looking for pastiches of John Betjeman's work.

Andrew Motion, one of last year's judges, said, "The competition has a value in encouraging schools as well as individuals to give more time to poetry, it has a bright future ahead of it."

To download the entry form and for further information go to  
[www.johnbetjeman.com](http://www.johnbetjeman.com)