

Hong Kong Budding Poets (English) Award 2021/22

Part A: Introduction

1. Organiser

The Hong Kong Budding Poets (English) Award (HKBPA) 2021/22 is organised by The Hong Kong Academy for Gifted Education (HKAGE) and supported to the Education Bureau (EDB) and Department of English of The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong (HSUHK) is commissioned to the competition, workshops and events.

2. Aims

The Hong Kong Budding Poets (English) Award (HKBPA) is a territory-wide writing competition for all primary and secondary school students in Hong Kong. It serves as a platform for students to express creatively through writing poetry in English. It aims to provide schools with a channel to identify gifted learners in English for extended training in creative writing.

3. Objectives

- To develop students' high-standard imaginative thinking and writing skills;
- To encourage students to instill and express themselves in a purely creative format with confidence;
- To raise students' awareness and appreciation of academic-creative (e.g. language and literature) and socio-philosophical thinking (e.g. cultural issues and social phenomenon).

4. Students who are interested in the award –

Seek advice from your English teacher NOW!

Part B: Regulations and Conditions

5. Eligibility

Section	Eligible Students in School Year 2021/22
Primary	Full-time students from any primary schools adopting the local curriculum <u>only</u> .
Secondary	Full-time students from any secondary schools adopting the local curriculum <u>only</u> .
Open	All of the above + full-time students from any primary/ secondary schools adopting non-local curriculum.

6. Notes on Application

- The HKBPA 2020/21 is open to all full-time primary and secondary students studying in Hong Kong schools, which adopt local and non-local curriculum, in school year 2021/22.
- All entries must be submitted via HKBPA online platform: <https://hkage.org.hk/hkbpa/index.php>
- School participating in the event are requested to appoint a teacher-in-charge to coordinate the event.
- School Teacher-in-charge must register for a school account from **1 November 2021 (Mon) to 20 December 2021 (Mon) 12:00 n.n.**
- Return the computer-generated application form with signature and school chop and the following filename format: "HKBPA_school name" (For example: HKBPA_The Hong Kong Academy for Gifted Education or HKBPA_HKAGE) by **12:00 n.n., 23 December 2021 (Thu)**.
- School Teacher-in-charge is responsible to create student accounts accordingly.
- School Teacher-in-charge should give guidance and advice via HKBPA online platform with students about their works.
- School Teacher-in-charge must select students' entries and submit them to organiser by **12:00 n.n., 2 March 2022 (Tuesday)**. Late submission will not be entertained.
- Each student can submit 1 poem only for each section (e.g. a full-time local primary student can submit 1 poem in Primary Section and 1 poem in Open Section).
- Maximum number of entries for all sections from each school is **40**.
- School Teacher-in-charge is advised to generate and/or print out the submitted entries for record.
- Upon submitting the application, the schools participating are deemed to have read, accepted and agreed to abide by the relevant regulation of the competition.

7. Notes on Competition

- All entries must be original work of the participants and must not have been published or submitted on a website or broadcast before. Entries containing plagiarised materials, if verified, will be disqualified during submission and adjudication.
- All entries should not contain any contents of participants' personal information, or other identifying marks or details.
- All entries should not contain any contents of pornography, violence, undesirable notions,

and objectionable commercial or religious propaganda and are not libelous, threatening, illegal, obscene, indecent, seditious, offensive or liable to incite racial hatred or discrimination.

- Any changes to confirmed entries are not allowed under any circumstances.
- Any infringement of competition rules and regulations will trigger disqualification.

8. Poems

- Medium: poems must be written in English.
- Title: each entry should be given a title (if participant do not have one, please state “Untitled”).
- Length: maximum number of lines for each poem is **40**. There are no minimum requirements. Please state the total number of lines of the poem.
- Shape: no restrictions on poem’s shape but it must be typed inside the “textbox” on the HKBPA online platform.
- Form: poetic form is open but entries should exhibit rhyme, rhythm, imagery and structure. Participants are encouraged to make good use of poetic devices, such as alliteration, simile and metaphor.

9. Theme and Suggested Topics

Theme of the Year – Positive Values and Attitudes¹			
Suggested Topics	Primary	Secondary	Open
1	Honesty		Free selection
2	Beauty and Love		
3	Creativity		

- Participants are encouraged to write to echo with the theme of the year. For the Primary and Secondary section, participants should choose from the 3 topics provided, and come up with a title for the poem. For the Open section, participants are encouraged to explore how far poems writing can go and are free to write on any topics he/she desires.

10. Copyright and Remarks

- Copyright remains with the author though the participants give permission to the organiser to publish submitted poems on the Internet in electronic format, as well as in anthologies or future promotional materials of the competition, or to use them as curriculum resources.
- The organiser will take videos and photographs of the events, and quote students' works produced in the Hong Kong Budding Poets (English) Award for teaching, research, demonstration and other educational purposes, and as reference for schools and teachers.
- Teachers are advised to inform students concerned and their parents of the above terms and obtain their agreement before making nominations.

¹ For details, please visit: <https://www.edb.gov.hk/en/curriculum-development/4-key-tasks/moral-civic/index.html>

Part C: Prizes/ Awards

11. Judging Criteria

Entries will be assessed on originality, use of language, artistic quality, expression of the theme and construction. After two rounds of preliminary and final adjudication by frontline English language teachers, poets, writers and/or academics in the field of poetry and creative writing, at most 20 entries from the Primary, Secondary and Open Sections will be recommended for awards.

12. Result Announcement

- The final result will be released in mid-May 2022 tentatively. School Teacher-in-charge and participants concerned should take initiative to check the details on the website of the HKAGE (<https://www.hkage.org.hk/en/competitions>). No further notification will be given.
- Only the awardee list will be announced in the competition result. The results are subject to the final decision of the adjudication panel. No objection from all stakeholders may be entertained.

13. Outstanding Student Poet Awards

Awards	Ranking	Primary / Secondary / Open Section
Gold Award	1 st – 4 th	Trophy, Certificate of Gold Award, and \$500 book tokens
Silver Award	5 th – 8 th	Certificate of Silver Award
Bronze Award	9 th – 12 th	Certificate of Bronze Award
Honorable Mention	13 th – 20 th	Certificate of Honorable Mention

14. Poet of the School Awards

- (i) This is a school-based award. Schools submitting **10** or more entries in the HKBPA 2021/22 are eligible to run for The **Poet of the School Award**.
- (ii) Students with the best entry/ entries among his/ her own school, and demonstrate a good standard in an overall sense will be receiving The **Poet of the School Award**.
- (iii) Certificate will be awarded to each awardee of The **Poet of the School Award**.

15. Prize-giving Ceremony

Awardees of The **Outstanding Student Poet Award** will be invited to join the **Prize-giving Ceremony** in the evening of late May or early June 2022. Details will be announced in due course.

16. HKAGE Student Membership – Nurturing the Gifted Scheme

Awardees of The Outstanding Student Poet Award of appropriate age (excluding Secondary 6 or equivalent) will be invited to join the screening for HKAGE members through the “Nurturing the Gifted Scheme”.