

# Young Muslim Writers Awards

Writing workshops to submit short stories and poetry for an annual writing competition

<https://engagenow.eu/case-studies/young-muslim-writers-awards/>

Young Muslim Writers Awards is a UK youth development programme. Writing workshops are delivered all over the country and children from 5 to 16 years old are invited to submit short stories and poetry for an annual writing competition.

Young Muslim writers that are awarded are for the first time able to attend a literature festival with more than 2000 cultural events and activities and 200 literary guests from more than 120 different countries. At this literature festival young winners are invited to speak and express what inspired them to be creative.

In 2017 the ceremony was presented in association with the Yusuf Islam Foundation, an educational organisation working for community development and philanthropy. Also, the ceremony is broadcast on the Islam Channel who is the official partner of the competition since the beginning of the Young Muslim Writers Awards in 2006.

**LOCATION:** UNITED KINGDOM, NOTTINGHAM

**WEBSITE:** [MUSLIMHANDS.ORG.UK/OUR-WORK/UK-PROJECTS](https://muslimhands.org.uk/our-work/uk-projects)

**YEAR THE PROJECT BEGAN:** 2006

**DURATION:** > 24 MONTHS

**ORGANIZER:** [MUSLIM HANDS UK](https://muslimhands.org.uk)

#### ARTS AND CULTURE SECTORS:

- LITERATURE: WRITING
- LITERATURE: READING
- LITERATURE: COMPREHENSION
- LITERATURE: ORAL EXPRESSION

#### AGE TARGETS:

- PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN (5-13 YEARS OLDS)
- YOUNGSTERS AND ADOLESCENTS (14-16 YEARS OLDS)

**GENDER TARGETS:** ALL

#### SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC TARGETS:

- URBAN
- METROPOLITAN
- RURAL

#### AIMS:

- EDUCATION
- EMPOWERMENT
- LITERACY
- SOCIAL INTEGRATION

## MAIN GOAL OF THE PROJECT

The main goal of the project is to raise the standard of child literacy and creative writing so that young people can be empowered and become confident communicators to help build a vibrant society.

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## ROLE OF YOUNG AUDIENCES

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The role of young audiences is to participate in a competition assessed by over eighty judges who are authors and personalities in the media and the arts, including award-winning authors Louis de Bernières, Elizabeth Liard and Tim Bowler. The award ceremony has attracted high-profile support from different personalities in the UK, for example the medal-winning long distance runner Mo Farah.

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## AIMS

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This youth development programme wants to help youngster to improve their writing and communication skills. The programme also helps young people to take part in new experiences, for instance, attending a Literature Festival for their first time.

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## WHY IS IT “A CASE OF GOOD PRACTICE”?

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This is a case of good practice because the writing competition gives young Muslims the opportunity to express themselves by submitting a short story or a poem and, if they are chosen as a winner they receive an award that represents the raising of child literacy.