



MarLitCy is a European-funded project, through the Cypriot
Civil Society in Action Programme
www.marlitcy.eu



MarLitCy

Marine Litter: Together for Clean Coasts!

Creative Writing Competition

*****Rules and Conditions*****



Introduction

Marine litter is a problem of global concern that knows no geographic or political borders. Project MarLitCy – Marine Litter: Together for Clean Coasts! (www.marlitcy.eu) aims to raise awareness about marine litter and bring all the Cypriot communities together through actions that aim to address the problem. To this end, MarLitCy and its partners, the Famagusta Walled City Association (MASDER), AKTI Project and Research Centre (AKTI), the Association of North Cyprus Diving Centres and Enalia Physis Environmental Research Centre (Enalia Physis) are launching a creative writing competition.

The MarLitCy Creative Writing Competition aims to engage students between the ages of 7 and 18 to think about the issue of marine litter and provide their own smart and different reactions to it: How does marine litter affect us and wildlife? Who is responsible for it? What can you do to stop marine litter? What can society do? These are all topics that students can explore in their works.

This document sets the rules and conditions of the creative writing competition. **By entering in the competition, participants and their legal guardians (for those participants that have not yet completed 18 years of age) agree that they have read and consent to the Terms of Reference, the Technical Specifications, the Copyright information and the Selection Criteria presented in this document, and that their entries meet all the requirements.** Entries deemed, by the Jury and MarLitCy, not to meet the requirements will be disqualified.

Terms of Reference

- The competition will open on **24 October 2016** and will close on **16 December 2016 at 24:00** hours, local time. Any entries received after this date and time will not be accepted.
- The competition is open to children and youngsters between the ages of 7 and 18, who attend a school in Cyprus, regardless of nationality. Employees of MASDER, AKTI, Association of North Cyprus Diving Centres, Enalia Physis and their immediate families are not eligible for prizes but may submit work for inclusion in the exhibition.
- Entries must be the entrant's own work and cannot be unduly corrected or improved by another person. This does not rule out input or assistance from others. However, an entry will be disregarded if there is any suggestion of excessive external help.
- Any form of plagiarism will result in automatic disqualification. It is the participant's responsibility to ensure that their work does not infringe the copyright of any third party or any other laws.
- Entries must not infringe the rights of anyone else and must not contain anything unlawful, obscene or defamatory. MarLitCy reserves the right to disqualify entries that contain offensive material, profanity, slander or discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, religion, race or any other subject that is contrary to the values of MarLitCy, as determined by MarLitCy.



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- By entering the competition, entrants and their legal guardians understand that they are solely responsible for their actions. Participants agree that MarLitCy, MASDER, AKTI, Association of North Cyprus Diving Centres, Enalia Physis, the European Union and its affiliates, and their officers, employees, agents and representatives, shall not be responsible for any losses, damages or injuries of any kind resulting from participation in the competition or from the participants' acceptance, receipt, possession and/or use or misuse of any prize.
- The submitted entries and those selected to be included in the report and/or the exhibition do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission, MarLitCy or any of the MarLitCy partners.
- Entries that are incomplete, unreadable, unintelligible or otherwise non-compliant will be disqualified.
- MarLitCy reserves the right to reject entries that do not meet entry criteria.
- MarLitCy and its partners reserve the right, at their sole and absolute discretion, to use names and information about participants without obtaining further consent from the participant or providing any payment whatsoever to the participant for any commercial or non-commercial endeavours, publicity, advertising, trade or promotion in perpetuity.
- By entering the contest, participants agree to allow the free use of their names and school for publicity and news purposes (no other information will be shared for underage participants).
- MarLitCy reserves the right to format the submitted works for printing and publication purposes.
- The Jury's decision is final and not subject to appeal. No correspondence will be entered into.
- The awards are not transferable and no part of the award can be substituted for other benefits, items or additions. There is no cash alternative.
- MarLitCy reserves the right to at any time cancel, modify or supersede the competition (including altering the prize) if, in its sole discretion, the competition is not capable of being conducted as specified. MarLitCy reserves in its absolute discretion the right to substitute an award of equal value in the event that circumstances beyond their control make this unavoidable.

Technical Specifications

- Only one (1) entry per participant can be submitted. In the event that MarLitCy deems an entrant to have made multiple submissions or to have acted in bad faith, the entrant shall be excluded from the creative writing competition and will consequently be ineligible to win any of the prizes.
- Only individual entries are allowed. Team entries will not be accepted.
- Entries can be essays, poems, letters, short plays etc.
- Entries must be submitted in English, Greek or Turkish.
- Due to the wide age range of the competition, entries will be grouped by age, based on the student's age on the day the competition closes.
- The length of the entries can vary by age group, as follows:
 - Youngsters between 7 and 10 years old: up to 250 words.



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- Youngsters between 11 and 14 years old: up to 250 words.
- Youngsters between 15 and 18 years old: up to 500 words.
- Entries must be typed, double-lined spaced, Times New Roman 12 or Arial 11 font, pages numbered.
- Entries must be submitted electronically in word doc or adobe pdf format.
- The work submitted must be the original work by the entrant. Where applicable, references should be added using footnotes. References should include the author's name, title of publication, publisher (if available), and date or internet link.
- For their entry to be considered complete, entrants must also submit the Creative Writing Competition Submission Form.
- All entries must have a title.
- The Creative Writing works should not contain the writer's name, contact details, or other identifying information. Such information should only be included in the accompanying Submission Form.
- All entries must be submitted via email to marlitcy2016@gmail.com by midnight (24:00) local time on 16 December 2016. For alternative means of delivering your work, please contact MASDER or AKTI.

Copyright

- Participants retain ownership of materials submitted to the competition. However, by submitting an entry to the competition, students (and their legal guardians) hereby grant to MarLitCy and its partners, an irrevocable, perpetual and royalty-free right to use, reproduce, edit, display, transmit, prepare derivative works of, modify, publish and otherwise make use of the submitted writings in any and all media, whether now known or hereinafter created, throughout the world and for any purpose.
- MarLitCy will give credit to the authors at every point of usage of the works, including the exhibition, online electronic display, use in print media etc.

Selection Criteria

- Upon the deadline for submissions, the writings will be shared with the Jury, comprised of MarLitCy representatives and other professionals, for evaluation. All entries are judged anonymously, so **entrants should not write their name and contact details on the same document.**
- The Jury will judge the writings using the following criteria:
 - Adherence to the contest theme and topics.
 - Creativity: whether the work expresses ideas that are not commonly found in other works, whether it addresses the theme from an unexpected angle, whether it displays a lot



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of thought on behalf of the student writing it, whether it addresses the subject in a way that makes the reader think, originality, unique style etc.

- Structure and Composition.
- Grammar, Spelling and Diction.
- Evaluation of the works will be undertaken according to the age group of the entrant, so that three separate evaluations will take place, for participants aged 7-10, 11-14 and 15-18.
- The Jury will select a number of works, based on their scores, to be included in an electronic report created by MarLitCy. The highest scoring works will also be displayed at an exhibition that the project will organise (date and venue to be announced). The owners of the selected works will be notified.
- The selected works will also be uploaded on MarLitCy's facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/www.marlitcy.eu>.

Awards

A full list of awards is available at www.marlitcy.eu.

Contact Information

For more information about the contest you can contact:

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