This Is Our Place

Terms and Conditions 2021

**We are delighted to announce the Spread the Word This Is Our Place nature writing competition in association with the London Wildlife Trust.**   
  
Please read these terms and conditions before submitting your work.

**Competition Terms and Conditions**

1. Entries can be either: one Poem up to 30 lines maximum, Prose – fiction or creative non-fiction up to 1,000 words maximum. Entries must be themed on nature, but this can be interpreted by the writer.
2. Word and line counts will be checked at longlisting stage and entries longer than 30 lines for poetry and 1,000 words for prose will be disqualified. There is no minimum word count.
3. Writers only submit one entry each. Multiple entries by the same author will result in only the first entry being considered for the competition and any additional entries disqualified.
4. The competition will open for entries on Monday 2nd August 2021 and close on Monday 20th September 2021 at 5pm.
5. Entries must be the original, previously unpublished work of the entrant. Pieces of writing that have already secured a publishing deal but have not yet been published are ineligible.
6. The competition will be judged by the five writers in residence. The judges' decisions are final, and no correspondence about their decisions will be entered into. Spread the Word reserves the right to change the panel of judges without notice.
7. The competition is open to writers who meet the following criteria:

* Aged 18+
* Are from at least one of the following backgrounds currently underrepresented in nature writing: Disabled; LGBTQIA+; Working class; Writer of Colour (Black, Asian, Arab, Mixed-Raced and Non-white Latinx)
* Are a full-time resident of London (we define London using this postcode map: <https://www.doogal.co.uk/london_postcodes.php> )
* Have attended at least one online or in person workshop in the This Is Our Place programme of events

1. Entries must be the individual and original work of a sole author.
2. Entries must be in English.
3. Due to the volume of entries the competition will receive, Spread the Word is unable to provide feedback for any entries. We hope you understand and are sorry to not be able to provide this.
4. All entries will be judged anonymously. To that effect, please ensure that your entry does not contain your name on any of the pages of your poem or prose submission. Any entries with names or identifying information on will be disqualified.
5. If any of the reading and judging panels recognise an entry, they can participate in a discussion about the piece but will recuse themselves from casting a vote.
6. Entries that are simultaneously submitted elsewhere are welcome – but please let us know as soon as possible if a piece is to be published elsewhere or has won another prize so we can disqualify it from this competition.
7. The competition will have 20 winners – each will be published in the This Is Our Place anthology. Each winner will receive 3 copies of the anthology.
8. The anthology will be launched at an event on Saturday 27 November 2pm-4pm at London Wildlife Trust’s Camley Street Natural Park in Kings Cross (12 Camley Street, London N1C 4PW). Winners must be available to attend the event.
9. The winners will be informed by email week commencing 18th October 2021. They will need to verify their eligibility to be included in the anthology.
10. The winners will agree to any reasonable request by Spread the Word to fulfil press and marketing obligations relating to the competition and their own entry, including attending and reading at events connected with the competition.
11. Copyright will remain with the author.
12. The anthology will be distributed at the competition event and London Wildlife Trust centres in a print edition. It will also be distributed digitally through the Spread the Word website.
13. Entries should be typed in **black, double spaced and 12pt font** (unless a more stylised form including drawings and or photographs is necessary for the piece) and submitted online via Submittable, or in the post with an entry form to the This Is Our Place Competition, Spread the Word, The Albany, Douglas Way, London, SE8 4AG. Please visit the Spread the Word website to download a postal entry form.
14. Unfortunately, we cannot return entries submitted by post, but we will acknowledge receipt of entry.
15. Employees or Trustees of Spread the Word or their close family members, London Wildlife Trust employees or their close family members are not permitted to enter.
16. These terms and conditions are the Competition Rules. Submission of an entry will be taken to mean acceptance of these terms and conditions. Entries that fail to comply with these rules may be disqualified.
17. There may be extenuating circumstances that render the dates and timelines in this document flexible. Spread the Word reserve the right to alter these dates should it be necessary for any reason.