



Rotary Club of Grays Thurrock

Rotary **YOUNG** **ARTIST** COMPETITION



INFORMATION PACK

2026 -27

Closing date for entries **Friday 12th February 2027**

Information Pack for 2026 – 2027

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** Please make certain that you use the correct entry form*

Information Pack for 2026 – 2027

THEME – 'Friendship'

The 'Friendship' theme can be interpreted as broadly as the Young Artist wishes and does not need to conform to the dictionary definition of the word.

Introduction

The Young Artist Competition is a competition organised and promoted by Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland (Rotary GBI). There are 3 stages to the national competition, each designed to support and encourage the development of artistic skills.

Aims and Objectives

The competition aims to encourage young people to:

- be creative
- develop skills in using traditional or contemporary media
- interpretate the theme thoughtfully
- express personal ideas through a selected medium or multi-medium

Who can take part?

The competition is open to all schools and colleges and those home-educated, along with community organisations such as, Scout Groups, Girl Guides, Sea and Air Cadets) and individuals across the Thurrock Borough.

There are three age groups:

Junior:	7 to 10 years old
Intermediate:	11 to 13 years old
Senior:	14 to 17 years old

Entrants must not be over/under the upper age parameter for each group on 31 August 2026.

With the age qualifying date of 31st August 2026, it should be noted that some junior entrants may be 11, intermediate entrants may be 14 and some senior entrants may be 18 at the time of some or all the stage competitions. For example, a competitor who may be 17 on 31st August but turns 18 on 1st September is allowed to enter. **Competitors must include their age on the application form.**

Competitors, schools, colleges, and organisations may participate in a competition held in a Rotary club outside the Borough of Thurrock but may compete in only one Rotary club or Rotary district event.

The Three Stages of the Competition

Local Thurrock Borough Heat

This is organised by the 'Rotary Club of Grays Thurrock'. The winners of each age group are entered into the 1240 Rotary District competition. Entrants need to complete one of the attached entry forms and submit it along with their original artwork, to the event organiser, Corin Whymark, by **Friday 12th February 2027**. (Further details below)

District 1240 Competition

This is organised by Rotary during March 2027. The winners of each age group are entered into the national final.

National Final

This is organised by Rotary Great Britain & Ireland during May 2027.

Competition Guidelines

Task

To produce **one** finished **2-dimensional** piece of artwork, up to a maximum size of A2, **unframed**, based upon the theme, **'Friendship'**. We welcome artwork in various mediums, such as: pen & ink, paint, collage, print making, etc.

To accompany the submission, **each entrant must provide a brief sentence explaining how their artwork relates to the theme** in the space on the entry form below. Entries without this explanation will be disqualified.

Pieces of artwork that are part of a current exam portfolio are not eligible for the competition. This is due to educational exam board regulations.

Individual artwork entered by Parents and Guardians **will not** be returned unless specifically requested. A stamped addressed envelope needs to be provided with the artwork to facilitate returns. Artwork entered by schools will be returned in due course. Winning entries may be retained for display and returned at a later date.

Originality, Use of Artificial Intelligence, Plagiarism or Close Copying

Entries must be entirely the competitor's own original work and must match the theme of the competition. Plagiarised, copied, traced, close-copied, or AI-generated work is not permitted in any Rotary Youth Competition.

It is important that we protect the work of creative individuals. While we are all inspired by the work of others, competitors must not use generative artificial intelligence (AI), or any app, tool or platform that creates, rewrites, edits, enhances or generates any part of the submission. The entry must be created solely by the competitor.

For the purposes of these competitions, "close copying" means that, to a reasonable person, the entry appears remarkably similar in significant respects to work created elsewhere.

Rotary reserves the right to investigate any entry where plagiarism, close copying or use of AI is suspected, and to disqualify any entry found to be in breach of this rule.

Judges

Persons with appropriate skills, appointed by Rotary, will apply the judging criteria below.

Judging Criteria

Judges will consider technical merit; content and composition; imagination and style, and relevance to the theme.

Only in exceptional circumstances, and at the sole discretion of the competition organiser, will correspondence or discussion be entered into following the competition

Prizes

At all stages of the competition, competitors will receive a certificate of participation.

The winners of each of the three categories of the Thurrock event will receive a trophy along with a £50 Amazon voucher.

How to enter

To enter the local Thurrock Borough heat please post or deliver (by prior arrangement via the email below) your artwork and completed entry form(s), along with a stamp addressed envelope (if appropriate) to: "Thurrock Rotary Young Artist Competition, c/o 17 Victoria Avenue, Grays, Essex RM16 2RL".

All entries must be received by **Friday 12th February 2027**.

Please make sure that you are using the correct entry form:

- Form A - Schools & Clubs
- Form B - Parents/Guardians

In case of difficulty, contact the Thurrock Rotary Youth Competition Co-ordinator, Corin Whymark, on youngartist@rotaryclubofgraysthurrock.co.uk

Rotary Youth Competitions

The Young Artist competition is one of several competitions for young people organised by the Rotary Club of Grays Thurrock. These are: Young Chef, Youth Speaks, Young Musician, Young Photographer, Young Writer, Technology Tournament and Primary Athletics".

PLEASE NOTE To find out more about these competitions and other opportunities for young people across Thurrock go to www.graysthurrockrotary.org.uk

Working with Children

Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland has adopted a safeguarding policy when working with children, vulnerable adults and those with disability. The policy can be found online at [Rotary GB&I Safeguarding Policy](#).

Privacy Notice – Youth Competitions

[For the purpose of this privacy notice, Rotary International in Great Britain & Ireland (RIBI) also includes Rotary clubs and districts and their members. The use of the term ‘you’, ‘your’ also means that of your child where the competition Entrant is a minor, i.e. under the age of 18 years].

Members of Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland (“we”) value the trust you put in us to process your personal information and will always be open and honest about the information we collect and how we will use it. We will never do anything with your personal information that you wouldn’t reasonably expect us to in relation to the Youth Competitions and we will always make every effort to protect your privacy.

The RIBI Privacy Notice is available on rotarygbi.org and explains how we collect, process and share personal information. This ‘Privacy Notice – Youth Competitions’ is supplementary to the general RIBI Privacy Notice and explains in more detail how you can expect your personal information to be specifically used in relation to the Youth Competition events.

How we use your personal information for Youth Competitions

1. We are collecting your personal information (and that of your child if a minor) for the organisation and administration of the youth competitions only, it will not be used for any other purpose.
2. Club, District or Rotary Public Relations Officers may use your personal information to contact you to discuss public relation opportunities and will gain your specific consent at that time for the use of your information, such as photographs/interviews for newspaper articles, club or district websites etc. Where the entrant is a minor only the parent/guardian will be contacted.

Providing your personal information to others for Youth Competitions

3. The personal information will only be shared with others that require it for their role/the services they provide for the organisation and administration of the youth competition events. Initially, this will be at club level competitions but should an entrant progress to district or national levels of the competition, the information will also be shared with those relevant organisers.
4. Depending on the Youth Competition, it may be necessary to share some of your information with third parties such as providers of venue hire and catering services. Under such circumstances only the minimum amount of information for the third-party service will be provided, i.e. for caterers, only the name and allergy/special dietary requirement will be disclosed, no other information.
5. Those individuals and organisations that have access to personal information are also bound by the RIBI Privacy Notice.

Retaining and deleting your personal information

6. All reasonable steps will be taken by those concerned to ensure the personal information they have access to is kept securely and will not be shared with anyone who does not have a legitimate reason to have access to it in relation to the organisation and administration of the competitions.
7. For all youth competitions, personal information will be kept on file for 3 months after the date of the National Final for that specific competition. After this date, the information will be securely destroyed (either by shredding, incineration or deletion from electronic devices) at club, district and national level. This timeframe is necessary to allow for any disputes to be settled before personal information is destroyed.

By signing the front of the entry form, you are acknowledging that you have read and agreed to the Privacy Notices on our website in respect of the use of personal information for yourself (and the child) where applicable.

SCHOOL or CLUB ENTRY - FORM A 2026/2027

TO BE COMPLETED BY A MEMBER OF STAFF

Please read the Rotary Young Artist Information Pack and Privacy Notice above before completing this form. By signing this form, you confirm you have read, understood and agreed to the contents of the Information Pack and Privacy Notice. Please return this form to the **competition organiser** by **Friday 12th February 2027**.

Rotary Young Artist Competition, c/o 17 Victoria Avenue, Grays, Essex RM16 2RL

Entrant's Name: (please type or use CAPITAL letters)	Age on 31 st Aug 2026:
School/College/Organisation:	Please tick category being entered: Junior ☐ Intermediate ☐ Senior ☐

Brief sentence describing relationship of the artwork to the competition theme Friendship.

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Staff Contact Details

Name:	Email:
	Tel No:

Rotary Details

Sponsored by Rotary Club of Grays Thurrock	Rotary District Number: 1240
Rotarian Contact Name: Corin Whymark	Email: youngartist@rotaryclubofgraysthurrock.co.uk

It is assumed that the member of school/club staff signing the entry form below has sought the permission from the parents/guardians of the student entrant under the age of 18 for the following:

- for the named Entrant to take part and be identified in the competition.
- for the information on this form to be used for all stages of the competition (should the entrant progress), and shared in accordance with the Privacy Notice with appropriate competition organisers at each stage.
- for Rotary, District or Club Public Relations Officers to make contact with the parent/guardian/entrant (where over 18 years of age) to discuss public relations opportunities.

By signing this form, you are also acknowledging that you have read and agreed to the Privacy Notices referred to within the Information Pack in respect of the use of personal information. In addition, you have agreed for photographic/video records to be taken and used by Rotary Club of Grays Thurrock for publicity purposes in printed, electronic and online formats.

Member of School/Club Staff (Print Name): Email address	Signature:	Date:
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INDIVIDUAL ENTRY – FORM B 2026/2027

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN

Please read the Rotary Young Artist Information Pack and Privacy Notice above before completing this form. By signing this form, you confirm you have read, understood and agreed to the contents of the Information Pack and Privacy Notice. Please return this form to the **competition organiser** by **Friday 12th February 2027**.

Rotary Young Artist Competition, c/o 17 Victoria Avenue, Grays, Essex RM16 2RL

Entrant's Name: (please type or use CAPITAL letters)	Age on 31 st Aug 2026:
School/College/Organisation:	Please tick category being entered: Junior ☐ Intermediate ☐ Senior ☐

Brief sentence describing relationship of the artwork to the competition theme Friendship.

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Parent/Guardian Contact Details

Parent/Guardian's Email:	Parent/Guardian's Tel No:

Rotary Details

Sponsored by Rotary Club of Grays Thurrock	Rotary District Number: 1240
Rotarian Contact Name: Corin Whymark	Email: youngartist@rotaryclubofgraysthurrock.co.uk

It is assumed that by signing this form the parents/guardians of the student entrant under the age of 18 agree to the following:

- for the named Entrant to take part and be identified in the competition.
- for the information on this form to be used for all stages of the competition (should the entrant progress), and shared in accordance with the Privacy Notice with appropriate competition organisers at each stage.
- for Rotary, District or Club Public Relations Officers to make contact with the parent/guardian/entrant (where over 18 years of age) to discuss public relations opportunities.

By signing this form, you are also acknowledging that you have read and agreed to the Privacy Notices referred to within the Information Pack in respect of the use of personal information. In addition, you have agreed for photographic/video records to be taken and used by Rotary Club of Grays Thurrock for publicity purposes in printed, electronic and online formats.

Parent/Guardian (Print Name & Address): Email address	Signature: 	Date:
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