

SPIRITED ARTS



Themes

Create your competition entry using drawing, painting, video, sculpture or other media!

Pilgrimages and journeys

In this theme, great work may refer to Makkah, Varanasi, Bethlehem, Amritsar, Bodh Gaya or many other spiritual places where pilgrims gather. But it could be about your own pilgrimage through life. Why are these journeys significant? What makes a pilgrim – is it something in your heart? What do you think people get out of their spiritual journeys? What guides people on life's journey? Are our holy books like maps for the pilgrim? And what hopes are fulfilled at the journey's end? Use wise sayings from scripture or other sources to reflect in your art if you can.

Questions, Questions

RE is all about questions. Younger children might use their own questions for God in this theme, while older students may create philosophical and critical art that explores varied answers to one big question. Can you make a painting that asks, explores and wrestles with 'ultimate' big questions? What does it mean to be human? What will happen after death? Who inspires us? What will give us courage to live and love? And what about the answers religions give? Older students are encouraged to explore questions of both faith and doubt.

Where is God?

Atheists, agnostics and believers in God might all respond to this by expressing their sense of the search for God or finding God. Where's God? In your heart, in prayer, in the temple or the universe? Or is she hiding? Is he not there at all? Looking for God, searching for him or her, matters: but how are we doing in finding God? Would you search with google or a 'god-detector'? By prayer or by looking among the world's suffering people? This popular 'Art in Heaven' theme produces great work where pupils use ideas from religions clearly: The Jewish Psalms 42 and 43 are where it starts.

Windows on the soul

If you look in the window of your soul, what do you see? If you look out from the window of your soul, then what? This theme encourages children and young people to dream and imagine the spirit and soul. If you could look through a window in your mind or soul into the 'big beyond' what will they see? Does the 'window of the soul' open in life, through music, by spiritual discipline, or only at death? Does the spirit or the soul even exist? Original work will go beyond a sunset seen through a window! What do the different religions teach in their scriptures about our spiritual side, our human nature, our souls?

Mysteries of life!

Out at the edge of knowledge, everything gets mysterious. What mysteries of life would you love to solve? This theme invites children and young people to express their own ideas about the religious and spiritual puzzles, mysteries and imponderables of life. So much we don't know, so much that inspires, so much that is mysterious ~ where to begin? Good work on this theme can explore the wonder and amazement of love, music, mountaineering or beauty. But you may prefer to explore the awful mystery of suffering and the faces of evil. The best work is likely to use religious material about life's mysteries as pupils explore their own ideas.

Online submission form

www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/spirited-arts/spirited-arts-2019/submit-your-entry/

All entries need to be submitted via our online form. This creates a log of all entries, and our mailing list for certificates and prizes. Visit our website (address above) to enter the details of all entries you are sending to us. The form should only take five minutes to complete.

You will need to provide the following details:

- School name
- School address
- Teacher name
- Email address
- Pupil name
- Pupil age
- Theme of entry (select from drop-down list)

Please post the artwork and write ups to us. The write-ups and images should be supplied together. Please do not send pictures via post and write-ups only via the online form, for example. We are not able to match these up for judging.

Write-ups must be typed (or copied & pasted) into the text box provided on the online form.

Alternatively you can email images and write ups to chelsey@natre.org.uk after completing the school and pupil details sections of the online form.

Entering the 2018 'Art in Heaven' Competition

Making your entries:

The competition is open to all pupils aged 4–19. Use the official submission form on the NATRE website. You must attach the label provided from the online form to all work. We receive thousands of pieces of work, so please take care to follow the submission instructions as we may not be able to accept any work entered incorrectly.

- Pupils should write briefly about their artwork. Some suggested prompts for this are provided, but free writing is encouraged. A single A4 sheet of 400 words is the maximum size for pupils' commentaries.
- Entries sent in to NATRE must be no larger than A3 in size. Good digital photos of 3D or larger entries are welcome.
- Schools may send **no more than 10 entries** to the national competition. School-based or local judging can take place before these are selected and sent.
- No entries will be entered into the competition unless they arrive at NATRE on or before **31 July 2019**.
- Entries via ICT, digital video and other multimedia approaches, as well as group entries are encouraged. Copyrighted music and images cannot feature on our website so please avoid these.
- All entries become the property of NATRE, the National Association for Teachers of RE. They may be used in web and other publishing materials. We're sorry we are not able to return them.
- Winning and a small number of commended entries will be added to the 'Art in Heaven' web gallery.

Prompts for pupils' writing

Pupils might use a selection of these. Approximately 8 makes a good set, but please don't use them all!

Adapt them freely for different age groups and in any way suitable. Written commentary on artwork should be under 400 words.

- The title I chose is ... because ...
- The deepest thing about my work is ...
- The religion that inspired my work is ...
- My RE art work ...
- This art work is spiritual because ...
- I think my work connects to religion because ...
- A quote from a holy book that fits with my work is ...
- I've been investigating ...
- This picture is all about ...
- My 'Art is Heaven' work is about ...
- In RE it is good to explore ... so ...
- Doing this work has made me think ...
- I've tried to show my thoughts/ideas/vision/feelings by ...
- I've discovered ...
- In my picture, you can see ...
- What I like best about my work is ...
- I hope people will notice ...
- This work has helped me to realise ...
- If you look carefully at the work, you will see ...
- My vision is ...
- To make the image, what I did was ...
- I like the theme I have been working on because ...
- My main ideas are ...
- My inspiration came from ...
- While I was making this, I thought a lot about ... and I would like to say ...

ENTRY CHECKLIST

Before sending any entries to NATRE please run through the following checklist to ensure your pupils' work is entered into the competition correctly. Logging all the artwork takes a long time, so any entries submitted incorrectly may not be included in the competition.

- **Online submission form has been completed**
- **If you are posting entries to us: every piece of artwork has been labelled with pupil name, age, theme and school details as well as the information provided from the online submission**
- **A hard copy of the submission form has been printed and enclosed with any postal entries**
- **Any CDs or USBs sent via post have full school details enclosed and all files contained are properly labelled**
- **All entries have been sent before 28 July 2019 to ensure they arrive at NATRE on or before 31 July 2019**

If you have any questions about sending your artwork please get in touch via email or by calling our office on 0121 458 3313