

Rules of the International Letter-Writing Competition for Young People

1 Objective

The UPU's International Letter-Writing Competition aims to improve literacy through the art of letter-writing. Targeted at children and young people, the annual competition encourages participants to express their creativity and refine their language skills.

2 Participation

The competition is open to participants up to the age of 15 years.

The UPU International Bureau does not accept compositions sent directly by schools, individuals or similar.

3 Presentation and content of entries

The original letter may include illustrations from the candidate. Entries must adhere strictly to the theme and not exceed the limit of 800 words in the original language.

4 Jury designation and results

The following criteria will be used to judge the quality of the letters:

- structure as a letter;
- adherence to the theme;
- creativity; and
- use of language.

The judges will select the three best entries (i.e. first, second and third places) and may also award special mentions to other compositions. As soon as the UPU International Bureau receives the results from the jury, it will notify the member countries within a reasonable amount of time.

5 Prizes

The top winners for the international competition will receive a special medal (gold for first prize, silver for second, and bronze for third) and a certificate, as well as other prizes to commemorate their win (such other prizes to be decided by the UPU).

The gold medallist may also be offered a trip to the UPU headquarters in Berne, Switzerland, or an alternative prize to be decided at the sole discretion of the UPU.

Writers awarded a special mention will also receive a certificate as well as other prizes (such other prizes to be decided by the UPU).

6 Communications

The UPU International Bureau will undertake communication activities to ensure the widest possible publicity for the prize-winners, their countries, and the letter-writing competition in general.

Member countries are warmly encouraged to make every effort to promote the competition and their prize-winners in their territory.