Dear Sir/Madam,

We would like to invite you and your pupils to take part in a new art competition and exhibition for children and young people in Berkshire. ‘Young Art Reading’ is a local community fundraising event, which will bring together schools, families and local organisations, to showcase the creativity of children and young people, while raising money for Cancer Research UK (Registered Charity No. 089464).

The ‘Young Art’ concept started in London, where a volunteer-led competition and exhibition has been running annually since 1987 and last year raised £86,000 for Cancer Research UK. Volunteers have since replicated the competition in East Anglia, Oxford, Devon and Cornwall. Inspired by their success, a local volunteer committee is launching the first Young Art Reading (YAR) competition in September 2019.

**Young Art Reading: Competition and exhibition 2019/20**

Young Art Reading is an exciting opportunity for your pupils to have their artwork reviewed by an expert panel of judges and exhibited in public, while raising money for Cancer Research’s ‘Kids and Teens’ campaign, which aims to accelerate progress, find new cures and kinder treatments for children’s cancers.

The competition will run annually from the beginning of the new academic year (2019/20). Each year the YAR committee will decide on a theme for the competition and work with schools to encourage children and young people, aged between 4 and 14 years, including those students with additional needs, to create and submit a picture inspired by the theme. Artwork can be completed in school as part of the curriculum, an extra-curricular club or outside of school as homework. For 2019/20, the theme will be ‘***My Reading’.***

To participate, we ask that each student donate **£2** to Cancer Research UK. YAR volunteers will work with schools to collect pupils’ artwork for judging (January 2020).

An expert panel of judges will then review the artwork, selecting entries from each participating school to exhibit as well as winners and runners up for each age and SEN category. **Please refer to the attached rules sheet for more details.**

The YAR exhibition will take across two days, **20th-21st March 2020 in the University of Reading’s Great Hall**, with a private opening and prize presentation for families, friends, school representatives and event sponsors and opportunities for members of the public, schools and local community groups to view the exhibition. There will be an opportunity for families to purchase their child’s artwork, with all money raised going to Cancer Research UK’s ‘Kids and Teens’ campaign.

We would be delighted if your school could provide an opportunity for your pupils to get involved in this exciting art competition and fundraising venture. Please confirm your interest in participating in Young Art Reading or request further information by returning the enclosed expression of interest form via email or the postal address provided**.** We very much look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Trista Thompson

School Engagement Lead, Young Art Reading Committee

Email: youngartreading@gmail.com / Web: [www.youngartreading.com](http://www.youngartreading.com)

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| **Young Art Reading, Expression of Interest Form, 2019/20** | |
| **Name of School** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Contact teacher** |  |
| **Email address** |  |
| **Telephone number** |  |
| **Age / SEN categories interested in**  **(please tick)** | * KS1: Reception , Year 1 and Year 2 * KS2: Year 3 and 4 * KS2: Year 5 and 6 * KS3: Years 7, 8 and 9 * SEN: Moderate learning Difficulties ( all ages) * SEN: Severe Learning Disabilities (all ages) * SEN: Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities (all ages) |
| **Would you like the opportunity to discuss the competition with a YAR committee member before the end of this academic year (July 2019)? (e.g. in-person meeting / phone call)** | * Yes (please explain)   \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_   * No |
| **Would you like help to launch the competition at school from a YAR committee member at the start of next academic year (Sept/Oct 2019)? (please tick to indicate interest)** | * Yes (e.g. Assembly presentation by YAR committee member) * No * Other (please explain)   \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| **Data protection (GDPR)** | To comply with GDPR, Young Art Reading (YAR) will hold limited personal and school information (name and contact details – email addresses, phone numbers and postal addresses) on a lawful basis by virtue of Legitimate Interest to support the delivery of the YAR competition and exhibition, including processing competition entries.  This information is securely stored electronically for the duration of the competition (2019/20 academic year). You will not receive any direct marketing from Cancer Research UK and will only receive information in relation to this specific fundraising event. No third parties benefit from this information, nor are there any wider public benefits or ethical issues. YAR complies with all relevant laws and codes of practice.  By signing this form, you acknowledge your understanding of our GDPR practice and agree to YAR storing said information until July 2020.  **YAR mailing list**  If you would be happy for us to add your email address to the YAR mailing list so that we can notify you of the competition on an annual basis, please tick below.   * Yes, please notify me of the competition on an annual basis. * No, please only retain my information for the 2019/20 competition.   You can change your mind at any time by contacting us at [**youngartreading@gmail.com**](mailto:youngartreading@gmail.com)**.** |
| **Signature** |  |
| **Date** |  |

Please return this form to Trista Thompson via email ([**youngartreading@gmail.com**](mailto:youngartreading@gmail.com)) or post (**Trista Thompson, YAR 2019-2020, 12 Wendover Way, Tilehurst, Reading RG30 4RU)**.

Once we have received your expression of interest, we will be in touch as soon as possible to confirm next steps and provide more information/resources to help you launch the competition in September.