

# PEACE *pledge* UNION

## 2022 Peace Pledge Union Poetry Competition

### When?

Launch- 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Closing date- 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022

### What?

We are deeply moved by the poem 'Sometimes There Is A Day' by Young People's Poet Laureate Naomi Shihab Nye (<https://poets.org/poem/sometimes-there-day>). The poem expresses feelings of hurt, sadness and regret but also looks forward to a new day that "shines".

We are calling for poems that are inspired by themes of peace, growth and change. What would a better day look like? What can we do to create a future with less suffering and more justice?

You are encouraged to consider the many ways that war and violence impact on issues such as human rights, displacement and citizenship, the climate crisis, access to healthcare and social justice. You may want to research current news reports and consider personal/ lived experiences. We are looking for a focus on **change** and a **future without violence**.

Poems should be no more than 40 lines. They can be submitted in written form or as spoken word (either a video or audio file).

### Who?

Entry is free and open to anyone between the ages of 12-16 based in the UK.

### Prizes:

This competition will be judged by the Peace Pledge Union (PPU) Education Service Manager and members of the Peace Pledge Union Council. The poets Anthony Anaxagorou & Cecilia Knapp will be contributing comments to the shortlisted poems.

Selected poems will be published on the PPU website as well as in our magazine, Peace Matters. A selection of poems will be chosen for a cash prize of £50 each (we have chosen to select three finalists, in line with our values of mutual support and collaboration). Poetry books will also be included in the prize.

### How to enter:

Send your poem (if you are sending a video or audio recording please also send the text) to [saffron@ppu.org.uk](mailto:saffron@ppu.org.uk) with your name, date of birth/ age, the area you live in, and how

you found out about this competition (please also tell us if you are related to a PPU staff or Council Member or to one of the judges). You can enter individually or as a pair/ group.

If you would like any support with your entry, or would like us to know any additional information about you, please feel free to get in touch (email [saffron@ppu.org.uk](mailto:saffron@ppu.org.uk))

#### **Entry requirements:**

- Poems can only be entered by the person/s who wrote them.
- Entries must reflect the themes described above as deemed by the judges.
- Poems must be suitable for those under 16 years of age.
- Entries containing offensive or discriminatory language will be discounted.

#### **Additional Resources:**

PPU resource on Poetry, Peace & War: [www.ppu.org.uk/education](http://www.ppu.org.uk/education)

<https://poetrysociety.org.uk/>

[www.poetryfoundation.org](http://www.poetryfoundation.org)

#### **Resources for Educators:**

Picture the Poet with the National Portrait Gallery:

<https://www.npg.org.uk/whatson/picturethepoet/exhibition/>

On including local performance poets: <https://www.teachwire.net/news/use-performance-poetry-to-give-students-who-struggle-with-literacy-a-way-to>

Lesson plan on war photography and poetry: <https://www.teachwire.net/teaching-resources/ks4-english-literature-lesson-plan-use-war-photography-to-inspire-learners-to-make-deep-thematic-links-between-poems>

Lesson plan on a student-centred approach to poetry writing:

<https://www.teachwire.net/teaching-resources/ks4-english-lesson-plan-help-students-analyse-poetry-confidently-by-making->