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**The SACU/ Peking University Essay/ Art Competition 2020-21**

The SACU/ Peking University Essay Competition began in 2015 as part of SACU’s 50th Anniversary celebrations. Now in its 5th year, the aim of the competition is to help young people learn about the development of friendship and understanding between the UK and China and to consider how this might be further promoted.

• The submissions could be an essay or an artistic form, which could involve for example photography, other visual art, choreographed dance, etc.

 • We suggest essays should be a maximum of 2, 000 words and videos no longer than 5 minutes.

**THE ENTRY PROCESS**

• Entries will be considered in two categories: 16 years and above; below 16 years.

• Each school will run its own internal process in order to select up to 3 entries for each category – 16 years and above; and below 16 years.

• The closing date for submissions for judging will be the end of April 2021.

• Each school will be encouraged to forward their views on their entries via their SACU member link to the judging panel.

• Schools will be asked to submit the email addresses for all entrants [not just the shortlisted 3 for each category] as all entrants will be given a free student membership of SACU for one year as a thank you for entering.

**THE AWARDS**

• The awards will be sponsored by Peking University with three prizes of £100 / £50 /£25 in each category.

• The judging panel, chaired by Dr. Frances Wood, renowned author on China and former head of the British Library China Collection and SACU Vice President, will give their views on the entries.

• There will be an Awards Event for all the shortlisted entrants on 15 June 2021 hopefully in London but if not on-line, involving Dr. Frances Wood and Prof Sun Hua of Peking University - an expert in historical figures who have contributed to building friendship between the peoples of China and the West.

• SACU is an officially registered charity in the UK. All entries submitted to SACU will be part of property of SACU, which endows SACU to use it for the purpose of promoting the friendship between the UK and China in the future.

The closing date for submissions for judging will be the end of April 2021. There will be an Awards Event for all the shortlisted entrants on 15 June 2021 hopefully in London but if not will be on-line. We hope SACU members will spread the news of the Essay Competition to schools in their areas so that more students in the UK will take part.

**‘China in the World’ talks**

This year, in addition to the competition, in order to enhance the younger generation’s understanding of China, we would like to offer talks to the schools under the title of “China in the World”. Members of our Speakers Bureau are all established writers and speakers on China with many years’ experience of living and working in the Chinese world. It is hoped that these talks on China will offer thoughtful and insightful perspectives to the students, who may be interested not only in the competition but in the promotion of UK-China relationships in the future.

**Schools/Teachers who wish to participate in the Essay Competition or request a speaker for their school, please contact Mrs. Fang Wang, the coordinator of these two items, for further details, at** **EssayCompetition@sacu.org.uk**