

Beirut19 writing competition

"Become a young Arab writer"

Reach Out to Asia in collaboration with the Supreme Education Council offers the opportunity to young Arabs in Qatar to participate and unleash their writing talents!

What is Beirut19?

Beirut19 is an international competition inviting Arab youth from more than 10 countries to write about the following two themes:

Power and identity in the 21st Century
Arab culture in a globalized world

The Beirut19 philosophy is inspired by Beirut39 which aims to encourage the debate of important issues between young Arab writers, as well as to allow them to share and cultivate their writing talents. Beirut39 is a collaboration between the Hay Festival and Beirut World Capital of the Book 2009 bringing together 39 of the most talented writers of Arab heritage under 39 years of age; the Beirut39 finalists will be present at the Beirut39 Festival/ book fair in April 2010 in Beirut.

How can I participate in Beirut19?

By writing and submitting a short story, an essay, an analysis, a critical theory or a journalistic piece between 500 and 2,500 words on one of the above mentioned themes.

Who can participate?

- Participants must be of Arab nationality and should be residing in Qatar.
- Participants must be between 12 and 19 year old.

About the competition

- Participants must register before January 24th 2010 (12:00 noon).
- Participants will be grouped in two main categories: Juniors (age 12-15) and Youth (age 16-19).
- Writings can be submitted in Arabic or English.
- Writings must be submitted before February 14th 2010 (12:00 noon).
- An official jury in Qatar will evaluate all the writings and select the top 20 that will be sent to the Beirut19 international jury.

About the Beirut19 finalists in Qatar

- The top 4 finalists in Qatar will be sponsored by Reach Out To Asia to attend the Beirut39 Festival in Beirut from the 15th to the 18th of April 2010.
- The top 20 writings (10 from each age category) will be sent to the international Beirut19 jury. The jury will select 39 young writers and 4 international finalists among all the participating countries.
- A winner and a prize for each theme and each age - a total of 14 prizes.
- All participants will be invited to the "Young Arab Writers in Qatar" award ceremony event in March 2010.

For more information about the competition and how to register:
please visit: www.rotaknowledgenet.org/knowledge-network/beirut19
or send an email to beirut19@rotaknowledgenet.org