

# Themes for the NATRE 'Art in Heaven' Competition 2011



<p><b>Stories of Truth</b></p>	<p>Every religion tells stories, but are they true? Do they tell us the truth? For younger pupils, this theme involves taking stories they love from religious traditions and expressing the key moments or ideas artistically. Start with any story: Jacob or Moses, the Guru or the Buddha, the Prophet or the Christ, stories told of creation, parable, paradox or meaning. Older pupils might add a question mark and use the stories of faith as starting points for their own ideas about truth. Or they might explore or question atheist or scientific stories as well as those that come from faith.</p>
<p><b>Journeys</b></p>	<p>Religious texts are full of journeys: from Eden or Nazareth, to Makkah, Bethlehem, Tarsus, Heaven or Nirvana. Life is seen as a journey in many religions. If life is a journey, then what are the milestones, signposts, guidebooks and service stations on the way? What speeds you up or slows you down? What are the destinations? In this theme, pupils winning work will develop great creative ideas about journeys of faith and life, expressing their own ideas as maps, pathways, roads to freedom or random wanderings.</p>
<p><b>Festive Visions</b></p>	<p>Divali and Hannukah, Eid and Easter, Red Nose Day and New Year, the festivals of life erupt in colour, splendour and community in every faith and any life. Pupils might choose the festival they celebrate, or the one they are learning about and express its key moment, or its big idea with colour and a viewpoint all their own. Festivals are all about vision: the past is visualised and remembered while the future is seen in a visionary way. What is your festive vision? Fireworks, or peace? Light, love or All Hallows Eve?</p>
<p><b>Spiritual Words</b></p>	<p>What words are the most spiritual for you? Peace? Promise? Truth? Love? Justice? Holiness? Prayer? Trust? Humanity? Unity? For some people, a verse from a sacred text will be the starting point for their ideas about spiritual words, whether it is Qur'an, Bible or Guru Granth Sahib. For others, a word has become spiritual because of its beauty or impact. Pupils might start with the words here, but winning work on this theme will explore the images and symbols that make the words powerful and spiritual, and enquire into the reasons why some words have the power to change the world.</p>
<p><b>God: Who? Where? How? If?</b></p>	<p>This competition has often asked: where is God? Who is God? Does God speak? This year, all these questions can be part of the theme, and the new focus is on your questions for God: Where are you, God? What are you like? Why are you invisible? How can we find you? Why can't I find you? Where were you when evil happened? Where are the signs of your love? Are you real, or made up? What questions would you like to ask God, and how might a person who knows everything and loves everyone reply? This theme is just as much for atheists and agnostics as for believers in different faiths: the atheist may say: 'Where is God? Nowhere at all.'</p>

Please **email** this as a completed form to **courses@retoday.org.uk**:  
Send your entries **with a copy of the form** to: Art in Heaven, NATRE, 1020 Bristol Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham, B29 6LB.

# Entry Form for the NATRE 'Art in Heaven' competition 2011



Complete this form to enter your pupils' work in 'Art in Heaven'.  
Only entries submitted using this form and sent as an email attachment to  
[courses@retoday.org.uk](mailto:courses@retoday.org.uk) will be accepted.

Post your entries or send us digital scans or photos. Always include a copy of your completed form.  
We will accept up to ten entries per school. (Any school sending more than ten will be disqualified.)

School Name	Address	Post town	Postcode

Teacher's Name	Email	(School) Telephone

Pupil's Name	Age	Theme	Title

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## Entering the 2011 Art in Heaven Competition

For 2011, there are special categories for digital video and for group entries. We especially welcome entries from 16-19 students in FE colleges and sixth forms. There will be some special prizes for 16-19 work this year.

### Making your entries:

- The competition is **open to all** pupils aged 4-19. Use the **official entry form**, from the website. It must be submitted electronically, to [courses@retoday.org.uk](mailto:courses@retoday.org.uk) - we cannot accept entries presented or sent in any other way.
- **Pupils should write** briefly about their art work. Some suggested prompts for this follow below, but free writing is encouraged. A single page A4 is the maximum size for pupils' commentaries. Sending us these digitally is also helpful in processing entries, but is not required. A copy of your completed entry form should accompany the entries.
- Entries should be **not larger than A3** in size. Good digital photos of 3-D or larger entries are welcome.
- Schools may send **no more than 10 entries** to the national competition. (Any school submitting more than 10 will be disqualified.) School based or local judging can take place before these are sent.
- No entries will be awarded prizes unless they arrive at NATRE on or before **31<sup>st</sup> July 2011**.
- All entries must have the **pupils' name, age, school address** and a school email address clearly marked on them (on the back is fine). Remember to include a print-out of your completed entry form.
- FE and other **16-19 entries** are especially encouraged. There will be a small number of large prizes for 16-19s
- Entries via **ICT**, digital video and other multimedia approaches, and group entries, are encouraged ~ special mention will be made on the website of the best of these. Copyright music or images cannot feature on our website: please avoid these.
- Judges have often awarded commendations and prizes to pupils from **SEN settings**.
- Entries become the property of NATRE the National Association for Teachers of RE. They may be used in web and other **publishing**. We're sorry we are not able to return them.
- Winning and commended entries will be added to **the 'Art in Heaven' web gallery**.

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Send your entries to:

Art in Heaven, NATRE  
1020 Bristol Road,  
Selly Oak, Birmingham , B29 6LB.

Thanks to our sponsors for their generous support.

Don't forget to include a copy of your completed entry form.

Entries must be received on or before 31st July 2011.

We are pleased to receive entries via email - digital photography of 3D entries has been popular in previous competitions. Send to: [courses@retoday.org.uk](mailto:courses@retoday.org.uk) . Remember to attach a copy of your completed entry form.

The Web gallery for the previous competitions is at: <http://www.natre.org.uk/spiritedarts> We recommend pupils look at the gallery to see what inspires them - reviewing the gallery and choosing their own favourites is a great homework.

**Entries from teachers:** we are happy to accept art work created by teachers for the competition. We think it is good practice to model learning for pupils yourself, and any teacher who feels creative and wants to make an entry is invited to send one in addition to the 10 submitted from the school. Please mark these entries clearly - but not necessarily with your age.

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Prompts for pupils' writing Pupils might use a selection of these. Adapt them freely for different age groups and in any way suitable

My 'Art in Heaven' work is about...  
The title I've chosen is... because...  
In RE it's good to explore...  
My RE art work is...  
I like the theme I have been working on because...  
This picture is all about...  
Doing this work has made me think...  
My main feeling about this RE artwork is...  
My art work is spiritual because...  
I've tried to show my thoughts / ideas /vision / feelings by...  
To make the image, I used...

What I like best about my work is...  
The deepest thing about my work is...  
I hope people will notice...  
This work has helped me to realise...  
If you look carefully at the work, you will see...  
My vision is...  
My main ideas are...  
While I was making this, I thought a lot about... and I would like to say...

**SPIRITED ARTS**



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