



21st April 2023

 **IESJA**
SHORT STORIES CONTEST
5th EDITION

Creativity
IMAGINATION
Inspiration
EMOTION
Amazing prizes!!!

April 2023

Categories:

- 1st and 2nd ESO.
- 3rd and 4th ESO.
- 1st and 2nd Bach.

**From inspiring paintings Join and Show us
your Imagination, Creativity, Writing Skills,
Love for Art, Emotion, Inspiration ...**

Guidelines



ALDECOA'S SHORT STORIES CONTEST-5th EDITION

We're looking for **ASPIRING WRITERS** to submit their **BEST** works for short fiction. We highly encourage **Students** to submit. The entry deadline is **21st April**. Make sure your work is polished before you submit.

Entry requirements and submission guidelines:

- Works must be written in English.
- Students enrolled in 3 categories : 1st and 2nd E.S.O, 3rd and 4th E.S.O; and 1st and 2nd Bachillerato. All submissions must be accompanied by a **SUBMISSION COVER SHEET** (get it from the English department) with student's name and grade level .No student names should appear on the writing piece: the entry must not identify the author so judging can be anonymous.
- Students must submit **original work**. **Any form of plagiarism will result in disqualification**. No book reports or school papers may be submitted.
- Entries may be typed or handwritten. Typed submissions must be double spaced; 12 font; and in a readable font.
- All works must have a title.
- Stories must be no longer than 2 double-spaced pages.
- Completed entries can be handed in to English teachers in class.
- No late entries will be accepted.

J.A. Judging Process and Awards

- Students' writing will be judged based on creativity, use of the language, clarity, impact and presentation by a jury of teachers.
- There will be awards in 3 categories: A) 1st and 2nd ESO, B) 3rd and 4thESO and C) 1st and 2nd Bachillerato.
- Winners in each category will be announced in May.



English Department
Josefina Aldecoa Highschool





IESJA
short stories
contest

5th edition



1º and 2º ESO



The Spinners, or the Fable of Arachne, by Diego de Velázquez. (1657, Baroque)



Click on the link to see the picture in detail:

[The Spinners, or the Fable of Arachne - The Collection -](#)

[Museo Nacional del Prado](#)

- The painting shows a scene in a workshop where some spinners are making a tapestry, but looking more carefully at the background, there is the representation of the myth of Arachne: the goddess, Pallas, wearing her helmet, argues with **Arachne** as the two compete to show their respective skills in the art of weaving. A human challenging a goddess!! Can you imagine the end of the story??

If you are curious, have a look here: [Myth of Arachne, the spider woman - Greek Myths | Greeka](#)

- **Ideas for your stories:**

- *She had always liked showing off...*

- *It was going to be another boring day at the workshop but...*

- *The Royal Family had ordered a tapestry from our workshop. We felt so lucky...*

Hippomenes and Atalanta by Guido Reni. 1618-19 Baroque



Click on the link to see the picture in detail:

[Hippomenes and Atalanta](#)

- **Atalanta**, the daughter of Schoeneus, king of **Arcadia**, had to find a husband. She offered to marry anyone who was able to outrun her in a race. However, suitors unable to be faster than her would be killed!!

Hippomenes was madly in love with her, so he accepted the challenge with the help of **Venus**, the goddess, who gave him three golden apples. He was supposed to drop these, one at a time, in order to distract **Atalanta** and thus win the race. Did he outrun her in the end? Find it out here: [Hippomenes - Wikipedia](#)

- **Ideas for your stories:**

- *I had been waiting for the day of the race*
- *We had been training quite hard for the last year*
- *That morning I was too nervous...*

3^o and 4^o ESO



The Triumph of Death by Pieter Bruegel the Elder. 1562-3. Renaissance



Click on the link to see the picture in detail:

[The Triumph of Death](#)
[- The Collection -](#)
[Museo Nacional del](#)
[Prado](#)

- Death always wins! This is a moral painting, where the triumph of Death over mundane things is symbolized by a large army of skeletons razing the Earth. The background is a barren landscape in which scenes of destruction are still taking place. In the foreground, Death leads his armies from his reddish horse, destroying the world of the living. Scary, isn't it?
- **Ideas for your stories:**
 - *Our parents didn't expect the world was going to turn into a kind of dystopia*
 - *The war was over and the world changed forever*
 - *We didn't care about the destruction we were causing to our planet...*

Still Life with Flowers, a Silver-gilt Goblet, Dried Fruit, Sweetmeats, Bread sticks, Wine and a Pewter Pitcher by Clara Peeters. 1611. Baroque

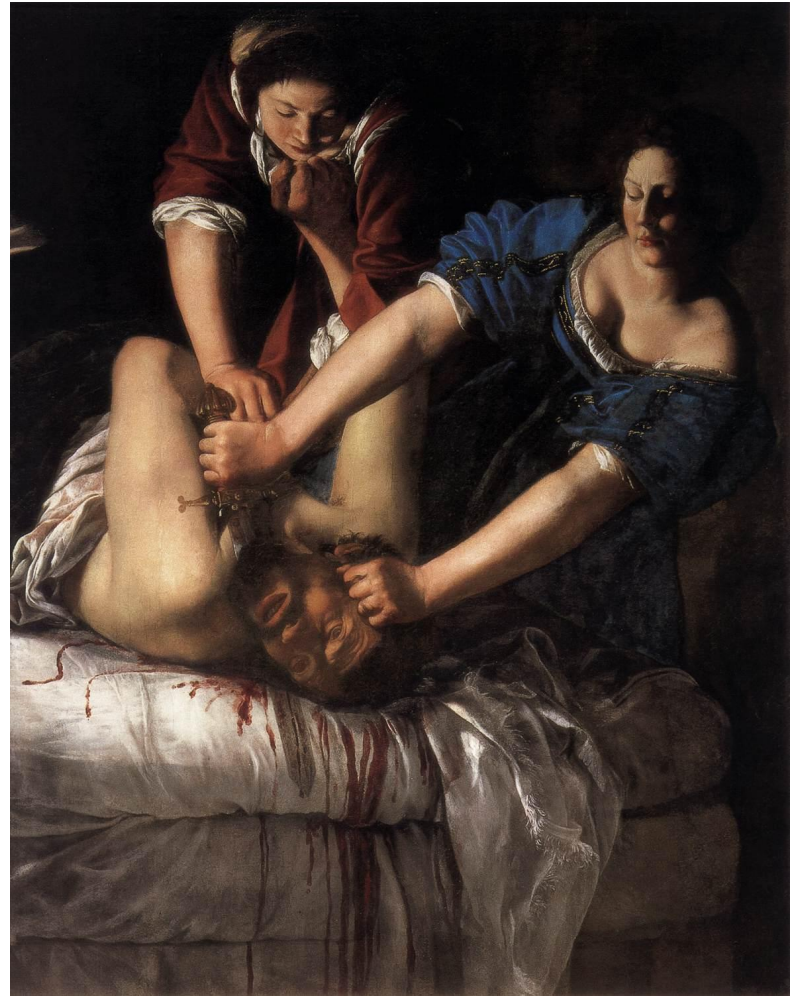


Click on the link to see the picture in detail:

[Still Life with Flowers, a Silver-gilt Goblet, Dried Fruit, Sweetmeats, Bread sticks, Wine and a Pewter Pitcher](#)

- There is a lot of symbolism in this painting, called *still life* because it shows organic and non organic elements in a disposition, chosen by the artist. The flowers in this painting are a reminder of the connections of still life paintings to early scientific illustrations (Imagine this painting as a kind of modern picture, taken with a professional camera). On the gilt goblet and the pewter flagon, the artist painted her self-portrait – three times in the goblet and four on the pewter jug-. The abundance of signatures and reflected self-portraits in paintings by Peeters is a form of assertion, perhaps explained because she was a woman in a profession dominated by men.
- **Ideas for your stories:**
 - *Life was not easy for a woman artist in a world of men*
 - *Dinner was ready. The family awaited for the important guests...*

1^o and 2^o Bach



Hotel Room by Edward Hopper. 1931. New Realism



Click on the link to see the picture in detail:

[Hotel Room - Hopper, Edward. Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza](#)

- Big cities are crowded places where people feel lonely quite often. Here, a woman, tired, rests in an anonymous hotel. We only see part of the room, and a window, a place to look at the world outside this small space. She's looking at the train timetable for the following day. Where is she going??
- **Ideas for your stories:**
 - *I was exhausted after the long journey*
 - *I had to get away from it all*
 - *New York looked like a wonderful city from my hotel window*

Judith beheading Holofernes by Artemisia Gentileschi. 1614-21. Baroque.



Click on the link to find info about the picture:

[Judith Slaying Holofernes \(Artemisia Gentileschi, Florence\) - Wikipedia](#)

To enlarge the picture:

<https://www.uffizi.it/en/art-works/judith-beheading-holofernes>

- “The Lord has struck him down by the hand of a woman”. This is how Judith is described in the Bible, as a heroine that freed Israel from a siege. She had to kill their enemy general in battle, the Assyrian Holofernes. The warrior was carried away by Judith’s beauty, so he invited her to eat and drink in his tent. She waited until he was drunk to commit the crime.
- **Ideas for your stories:**
 - *Killing him wasn’t easy*
 - *I had to show no mercy. We were at war.*
 - *That terrible evening she confessed her deed.*