

Foreword

A Burst of Creativity!

Judging a creative writing competition can be very challenging. On the one hand, it gives the pleasure of coming across fresh new ways of rendering the world, on the other, one has the weighty responsibility of choosing between many such pieces. Yet how difficult could it be? As judges of the Creative Writing competition conducted as part of the Creative writing workshop by Alliance University on 12th April 2023, we discovered just how, when we got to read and judge some refreshingly talented writers and poets.

The competition had two categories: a slam poetry competition based on the topic of urban myths and a story writing competition which had a prompt on the lines of a baby's crying in a market on Ramazan. The winning entry in the poetry competition (by Maria Lancelot from Hislop college, Nagpur) was an excellent blend of structure and content, written by a budding poet who knew her craft. The winner of the short story competition, Arushi Chakraborty had a mystic and ethereal tone to her story which impressed the judges. The other entries in the top three in both categories were close in terms of quality to the winners, challenging the judges to deliberate and heatedly debate amongst themselves as to who would be placed. The following pages carry the entries not just of the winners in both categories, but some of the other entries which showed great potential. All in all, it was a delight to judge the competition. We got to witness the success of the workshop in the result.

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