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Ryga Festival launches short play writing competition

Summerland literary festival invites writers to enter a play for 2020 festival

Plans are underway for Summerland's Ryga Arts Festival in August, and winning plays by Okanagan-Similkameen writers will be presented as part of this annual celebration of George Ryga.

"While our events will certainly be different this year, with virtual-digital-online performances and presentations taking the lead, we're being creative and want to inspire creativity in others," says Artistic Director Heather Davies.

Festival details will be announced soon. In the mean time writers have an opportunity to compete for a spot on the Festival's stage by writing a short play; the winning entry and some runners-up will be presented on August 22 either digitally, or in a public-health approved venue.

The competition is open to residents of the Okanagan-Similkameen. There are two categories: youth (under the age of 18), and adult (over the age of 18); judging will be done by three independent judges, and first, second, and third prizes will be awarded of \$150, \$100, and \$50, respectively.

Plays must have parts for two to four actors, require minimal sets or props, and are restricted to a 10-minute performance time. Entries must be submitted by email no later than July 10, as a PDF file, to rygafest@gmail.com.

Full criteria and rules can be found [here](#)

The Ryga Festival aims to advance appreciation of the arts by organizing and staging an annual arts and cultural festival in Summerland that honours George Ryga, following Ryga's inspiration to foster creativity and creative expression in any art form. Most of George Ryga's plays as well as *The Ecstasy of Rita Joe*, deal with social justice issues. There was always music, discussion, and a lively exchange of ideas in the Ryga household, and the Ryga family always welcomed visitors from near and far to their family home surrounded by orchards in Summerland.

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For more information:

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Ryga Festival

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