



GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
MINISTRY FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE, SPORT & LEISURE
310 Main Street
Gibraltar

PRESS RELEASE

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AUTUMN FESTIVAL 2011 – POETRY COMPETITION

The annual Poetry Competition organised by the Ministry of Culture, in conjunction with the Gibraltar Chronicle and the Department of Education and Training, attracted a total of 344 entries. The Minister for Culture, the Hon Edwin Reyes, presented the awards on Wednesday 9th November 2011 at 4.30pm at the Gibraltar Garrison Library.

Commenting on the competition Mr Reyes said:

‘The Poetry Competition, now in its fifth year, was devised to incorporate a new element alongside music, theatre, art and other established aspects of the Festivals. Extending the range of artistic and literary fields already covered can only auger well, especially for our youth. I am extremely pleased with the high number of entries again this year, but, more importantly, with the quality of the entries. I am very happy to say that the number of entries received has actually surpassed the amount of entries received in previous editions.

At last year’s competition, given the number of entries also received in the Spanish language, the Ministry of Culture has decided to award an extra prize of £50 to the best poem in the Spanish language and felt it most appropriate to name it after the adjudicator, Charles Durante, for his invaluable contribution to Education in Gibraltar and languages in particular. I am pleased to see that entries in the Spanish language have continued to come in.

I would like to thank everyone involved in this venture, including the Gibraltar Chronicle, the Department of Education and Training and especially the adjudicator Mr Charles Durante. However, my biggest personal gratitude goes in particular to the many children who put pen to paper and in doing so allowed us to enjoy the fruits of their vivid imagination.’

The Prize winners are:

Overall Winner	Christina Cortes	<i>‘Out of Loss’</i>
2nd Place	Jackie Anderson	<i>‘Grandmother’s Hands’</i>

3rd Place
write a Poem?’

Elena Scialtiel

‘Shall I or Shan’t I

Charles Durante Award - Best Poem in the Spanish language

Levi J Attias

‘Caballitos del Mar’

Winner School Years 4 - 7

**David Garcia
St Joseph’s Middle School**

‘The Writer’

Runner Up:

Thomas Stagnetto
Loreto Convent

‘Happy Memories’

Highly Commended

Isabella Macquisten
Loreto Convent

‘Autumn Poem’

Commended:

William Menez
St Anne’s Middle School

‘Death’

Maria Serra
Sacred Heart Middle School

‘I wonder’

Winner School Years 8 - 11

**David Anderson
Bayside School**

‘Winter Morning’

Runner Up:

James Galdez
Bayside School

‘Skin’

Highly Commended

Jesse Valverde
Bayside School

‘We once were married’

Winner School Years 12 – 13

**Amy Montegriffo
Westside School**

***‘What Remarque taught
me’***

The Overall winner received a £300 cash prize and a trophy donated by the Ministry of Culture.

The winners in each school year category also received a trophy with a £50 voucher donated by the Ministry of Culture, as well as a pen kindly donated by the Gibraltar Chronicle.

The winner for the best poem in the Spanish language (the Charles Durante Prize) received a trophy and a £50 cash prize donated by the Ministry of Culture.

Entries obtaining Runner-up Prizes, Highly Commended or Commended received their corresponding certificates from the Ministry for Culture and a pen also kindly donated by the Gibraltar Chronicle.

All winning entries will be published in the Gibraltar Chronicle.