



## MUSEUM OF MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART KOROŠKA

In collaboration with the Municipality of Slovenj Gradec

is announcing a

### CALL

#### FOR ORIGINAL CHILDREN'S ARTWORK, LITERARY WORK, AND PHOTOGRAPHY

(original children's and youth contribution)

ON THE THEMES:

1. STORIES WRITTEN IN THE MEADOWS
2. LISTEN TO THE SEASHELL
3. WE STAND FOR PEACE

Dear mentors,

The Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Koroška (KGLU) is once again announcing an international competition for original children's works of art, creative writing, and photography. With our set themes, we engage with current issues and, through creative expression, encourage students to think critically and develop a deep understanding of the "world that surrounds us".

We look forward to receiving your students' submissions and wish everyone plenty of enthusiasm, ideas and motivation in their work, as well as inspiration for further reflection on these themes.

#### THEMES OF THE COMPETITION:

##### 1. STORIES WRITTEN IN THE MEADOWS

(On the Occasion of International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists 2026)

The United Nations declared 2026 as the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists. Livestock farming is among the earliest economic activities to have developed when humans ceased living exclusively as hunters and gatherers. In its beginning, animal husbandry was simple and centred on pastoralism, with animals grazing on meadows while humans supervised them and protected them from predators.

Rangelands still cover half of the Earth's land surface – from meadows to steppes, to wetlands, savannas, and deserts. These ecosystems are rich in unique flora and fauna. In Slovenia, pastoralism also has a long tradition, particularly in Alpine regions, where it continues to this day. Pastoral communities help preserve cultural heritage, care for animal welfare, and protect the environment.



Pastoral livestock farming plays an important role in preserving biodiversity and mitigating climate change. However, it is threatened by technological development and human interventions in grazing ecosystems.

Rangelands are not merely meadows; they are filled with stories of life and friendship between people, animals and nature. Every meadow hides its own story, and it is up to you to discover it with a little imagination. Do you know a story or a poem about shepherds? Which animals do we most often encounter on rangelands? What is your relationship with animals and with nature?

*"If I were a shepherd for a day ..."*

## **2. LISTEN TO THE SEASHELL**

(On the 100th Anniversary of the Birth of the Artist Bogdan Borčič)

Bogdan Borčič was one of the most important painters and graphic artists of the 20th century, in Slovenia and beyond. In his works, he developed motifs ranging from realism to abstraction. During a certain period, he began devoting special attention to seashells and marine snails. His choice of motif was influenced by childhood memories of spending summers on the island of Vis in Dalmatia. Borčič approached seashells with an almost scientific curiosity. He assembled an enormous collection of marine mollusc shells, some of which he even had cut in half or x-rayed to observe their inner structure better. He was fascinated by the shell's dynamic spiral structure, which he often depicted in his graphic prints.

Due to climate change, overfishing, and the rapid development of tourism that encroaches on marine ecosystems, seashells are among the most endangered species in nature today. They are going extinct rapidly, which also harms other marine plants and animals. Did you ever collect seashells by the sea and admire their shapes? Dive into this wonderful marine world and, through your creativity, show how important it is for our planet.

*"Every seashell hides its own world ..."*

## **3. WE STAND FOR PEACE**

(On the 60th Anniversary of Peace Initiatives at KGLU)

Slovenj Gradec is a city with a strong peace-oriented identity, which was shaped primarily by the international exhibitions at the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Koroška between 1966 and 1985. Held under the auspices of the United Nations, these exhibitions presented socially engaged art with a clear message of peace, which significantly contributed to the city receiving the title of UN Peace Messenger City in 1989.

Since its founding, the KGLU has operated in the spirit of peacemaking, advocating respect, solidarity, human rights and responsibility towards the world in which we live. This was the vision of Karel Pečko, co-founder and long-serving director, who conceived the gallery as an accessible space that fosters friendship and peace. By engaging children, young people and the wider public, the gallery



strengthens awareness that a culture of peace begins with the youngest generations — in understanding others, embracing diversity and respecting life.

During a time when the world is once again facing wars, conflicts and a growing uncertainty, it is more important than ever to reflect on our values and consider how each of us can contribute to a better tomorrow. We invite you to show us what peace means to you and what your vision for a better world is.

*“When the world quiets down ...”*

We wish you plenty of joy in your creative work!

## **RULES OF THE COMPETITION**

- Your submissions to the competition are to be packed by category (visual art, literature, photography), with each category in its own envelope or package. Submissions are not to be rolled up.
- The categories of visual arts and photography are open for participation to primary school students from the Republic of Slovenia and abroad. Literary submissions are open only to primary school students from the Republic of Slovenia.
- Submissions must not be framed or mounted on cardboard or passe-partout.
- Within the framework of the school, the teacher-mentor should conduct a pre-selection and choose **no more than five** submissions per category within a single class.
- All submissions must be labelled using the **labelling form** provided in the competition documentation. Please attach the completed form or affix it to the back of your entry.
- The deadline for submissions is **Wednesday, 24 June 2026**. The judging panel will not review submissions received after this date.
- Please send your submissions to:  
**MUSEUM OF MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART KOROŠKA**  
Judging panel for *Visual Arts/Literature/Photography* Submissions  
**Glavni trg 24**  
**2380 Slovenj Gradec**  
**Slovenia**

Literary and photographic submissions may also be submitted electronically to:  
**otroskinatecaj@glu-sg.si**



- The organiser will not return submitted entries. If you wish to have your entry returned, please inform us upon submission; the works will be available for pickup at the reception of the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Koroška during the week following the end of the exhibition. Awarded submissions will remain in our permanent collection.
- The organiser appoints a judging panel for each category. The judging panels will review the submitted entries and select the best works to be presented in the exhibition and included in the catalogue.
- Mentors will receive notification of the results via email. No later than 15 August, mentors must review the lists and notify the organisers of any possible errors. Any corrections submitted after the aforementioned date will not be taken into account due to the printing of the catalogue.
- On the occasion of the exhibition, KGLU will publish a catalogue, which will be received by all selected mentors and awarded authors. Other participating authors are to receive certificates of participation.
- Authors of selected and awarded works are to receive certificates according to their placement in the competition:
  - Gold Certificate is awarded to authors whose works receive First, Second or Third Prize in their respective category.
  - Silver Certificate is awarded to authors whose works receive a Special Prize from the Municipality of Slovenj Gradec.
  - Bronze Certificate is awarded to authors whose works are selected for the exhibition.
- Certificates of participation in the competition shall be issued only to mentors of works selected for the exhibition and included in the catalogue. Certificates shall be issued in accordance with the placement of the work. In the event that five (5) or more countries participate in the competition, mentors shall receive a certificate in accordance with indent 5 of Article 19, indent 5 of Article 20, and indent 1 of Section C of Article 22 of the Rules on the Title Promotion of the Employees in the Education.
- The exhibition opening is **planned for 18 September 2026** at the KGLU and will be accompanied by a programme including the award ceremony. Mentors will be informed of the exact date of the opening and the exhibition in due course.
- By participating in the competition, I am granting the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Koroška (KGLU) and the Municipality of Slovenj Gradec permission to collect and process all personal data provided upon submission of the artistic, literary or photographic work. I am further consenting that the KGLU and the Municipality of Slovenj Gradec may publish the artistic, literary or photographic submission, as well as the name and details of the author and mentor, on their websites and other platforms, and in the catalogue and other printed materials. I



understand that this consent is granted without any time limit and that by submitting my entry, the organiser of the competition does not assume any proprietary or copyright rights over the work, but solely the right to use it for the purposes stated above. I agree that the submitted work may be used in whole or in part without any additional consent.

## GUIDELINES BY CATEGORY

### VISUAL ARTS SUBMISSIONS

- A single artwork submission may be created by no more than two authors jointly.
- There are no restrictions on art techniques.
- Submissions must not be framed or mounted on cardboard or passe-partout.
- The judging panel will select the ten best visual arts submissions: five from the lower primary level and five from the upper primary level. At each level, three prizes and two special commendations will be awarded.

### LITERARY SUBMISSIONS

- A single literary submission may be created by no more than two authors jointly.
- Submissions may be submitted as original manuscripts or printed copies. Handwritten manuscripts must be sent by post, while typed texts can be submitted digitally to: **[otroskinatecaj@glu-sg.si](mailto:otroskinatecaj@glu-sg.si)**.
- There are no restrictions on the type of text, but submissions should not exceed 700 words.
- The judging panel will select the five best literary submissions. Three prizes and two special commendations will be awarded.

### PHOTOGRAPHIC SUBMISSIONS

- A single photographic submission may be created by no more than two authors jointly.
- Each author may submit up to four photographs on the same theme.
- The format of an individual photograph must be no smaller than 15 × 21 cm, but there are no other restrictions on size.
- Submissions must not be framed or mounted on cardboard or passe-partout.
- Photographs should be sent by post or submitted digitally to: **[otroskinatecaj@glu-sg.si](mailto:otroskinatecaj@glu-sg.si)**.
- The judging panel will select the five best photographic submissions. Three prizes and two special commendations will be awarded.



If you have any further inquiries, please contact us at [otroskinatecaj@glu-sg.si](mailto:otroskinatecaj@glu-sg.si).

We wish you plenty of enthusiasm in your creative work and reflections on the given themes.

**We warmly welcome your participation!**

Petra ČEH

Director of the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Koroška



Tilen KLUGLER

Mayor of the Municipality of Slovenj Gradec

