

# **‘Letters to Mackintosh’ Creative Writing Project**

## **Entry Guidelines**

All entries must include their **Name, Age, Address, Phone Number, Email Address and any supporting images** with their submission.

**Length:** Up to 1000 words max (shorter submissions will be accepted but those longer than 1000 words will not be accepted)

**Format:** Either via email with attached word document or PDF sent to both [info@crmsociety.com](mailto:info@crmsociety.com) AND [volunteer@crmsociety.com](mailto:volunteer@crmsociety.com)

OR by physical letter sent to Mackintosh Queen’s Cross, 870 Garscube Road, Glasgow, G20 7EL. (Please document your submission before sending in case it is lost in transit)

**Deadline** for Submissions: 30th June 2020.

### **Judging Categories and Prizes:**

#### **Best Entry from under 12’s:**

- Amazing Mr Mackintosh Book
- Design Detectives Activity Sheets
- Mackintosh Colouring Book with colouring pens/pencils

#### **Best Entry from Teens (age 13 - 20)**

- A Selection of Mackintosh Stationery
- Mackintosh Book
- Starter Watercolour Painting Set

#### **Best Entry from Adults (age 20+)**

- £20 Gift Voucher for the shop at Mackintosh Queen’s Cross with FREE admission for up to 4 people
- Complimentary ‘Mackintosh Discovered Walking Tour’ for 4 people
- Complimentary Admission to House for an Art lover for 4 people

(all admission to Mackintosh buildings will occur when each location re-opens and it is deemed safe to honour the relevant prizes)

#### **Overall Top Entry:**

- 1 year of membership to the CRM Society which includes a bumper edition 2020 Journal.
  - Afternoon Tea and Free Entry to the Exhibition experience at Mackintosh at the Willow.
  - A complimentary pair of annual “Friend of the House Cards” valid at House for an Art Lover (Friend of the House Cards – valid for 1 year from when the House re-opens and it is deemed safe to honour them.)
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- Free entry to House for an Art Lover’s Visitor Attraction during opening hours
  - 10% discount applies in the Art Lovers’ Café, Shop and for Art Classes (Café discount applies to total bill for up to 4 guests)
  - 10% discount on in-house event tickets. (Card Holder Only)

**Judging Date:** 9th July 2020

**Winners Announced:** Monday 13th July 2020

Top entries will be published on both the [www.crmsociety.com](http://www.crmsociety.com) and [www.mackintoshchurch.com](http://www.mackintoshchurch.com) websites and all viable entries will be documented on our social media channels: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#)

'Letters to Mackintosh' in a creative writing project open to people of all ages. We invite Mackintosh fans to submit a piece of writing no longer than 1000 words, addressed to Charles Rennie Mackintosh as if he was still alive today in celebration of the 152nd anniversary of his birth on the 7th of June 2020. Perhaps you'll tell him what your favourite piece of his work is? Or maybe you want to ask him some questions about his ideas or travels? You could even write him a poem, include some of your own illustrations or describe what he might have been up to on a typical day back in 1900. The possibilities are endless - but we've outlined some creative writing prompts below to help should you wish to refer to them.

This project is inspired by the 'Chronycle' which is a published series of letters Mackintosh wrote to his wife Margaret when they were separated for a period of time to take care of business affairs. In his letters, Mackintosh tells Margaret all about his day to day activities, describing his likes and dislikes about where he is staying in Port Vendres, reflecting on their careers and relationship and keeping their connection alive. It isn't the standard of writing but the wit, emotion and details of everyday life in the writing which captures the hearts of those who read them.

During the current international Covid-19 pandemic we have all been trying to stay connected with loved ones, mostly online or over the phone, but letter writing has also made somewhat of a comeback! The lockdown has also given us time for reflection, research and re-discovering the things we enjoy doing in our spare time, and made us think about where we might want to visit once the lockdown has ended. The Charles Rennie Mackintosh Society would normally be hosting a series of events in celebration of the Mackintosh Anniversary, and although this sadly won't be possible this year we would like to strongly encourage people to keep engaging with the Mackintosh Legacy and share their love for his work. 'Letters to Mackintosh' is a celebration of what Mackintosh means to us and an opportunity for you to get creative in your own right and 'reconnect' with him as an Artist, Designer and Architect.

## **Creative Writing Prompts**

You are welcome to refer to any of the below creative writing prompts as a starting point for your letter, and you are also welcome to make up your own without using them.

- Describe one of the paintings created by Mackintosh or Margaret Macdonald Mackintosh. This could be what it depicts, the colours, symbols and what you think

the meaning is behind the work. How does it make you feel and why? (please attach the image of the piece you have been inspired by, or its title and creation date)

- A fictional scenario encountered by Mackintosh or by Margaret Macdonald Mackintosh. This could be an elaboration of something real which occurred in their lives such as Mackintosh growing up in Glasgow during the turn of the century, the Mackintosh's moving house or living in the south of France, Walberswick or London. Or perhaps it could incorporate some of Mackintosh's travels to Turin in Italy, Moscow or Vienna where he created sketches or exhibited work. Use your imagination to think about what occurred. Who were they (or he/she) interacting with? How did they feel? Where and when did the event take place? What was the impact of it?
- Describe your experience of walking around a Mackintosh building. What did you think of it when you went there? What did the colours, shapes and details remind you of? Did you feel any particular emotions when visiting and why? If you could tell Mackintosh what you liked or disliked about the building, what would they be?
- Ask Mackintosh the questions that history and research has not yet answered. What would you like to know about his life, work, and influences? If Mackintosh was still alive what questions would you ask him and why?
- Describe a day in the life of Mackintosh. What would a typical day look like (in your eyes) of the great man himself? Think about the simple things like what he might have for breakfast and where? Which of his clients would he visit and what might he say to them? What would be the best/worst part of his day?
- Have you created a drawing or another piece of artwork inspired by Mackintosh? What was it like and what was your thought process? What themes were you thinking about and what materials did you use? Do you think there are similarities between your works? Is there anything you would ask Mackintosh about his working process? If Mackintosh was alive today would you do a collaboration? What might this look like? (you are welcome to attach photographs/drawings with your submission)

## Rules

Entrants are encouraged to use their creativity and imagination when writing their letters. However please do not include:

- Any sensitive or personal information about yourself or about others.
- Any themes which are not family friendly in nature (such as violence or explicit content) as the letters are intended to be enjoyed by people of all ages.
- Any form of hate speech, racism or themes of a political nature.
- Any plagiarism from other books and publications, whether they are Mackintosh related or not.

**Any entries which break one or more of these rules will not be considered.**