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Competition taps the talents of language students nationwide

Language students at high schools and universities are being given the chance to show off their skills in a unique national bilingual writing competition being held in conjunction with the current Nobel Prizes centennial exhibition at the University of Technology, Sydney.

UTS's Institute for International Studies (IIS) is hosting the competition, which is seeking submissions of all forms of writing – from essays to creative fiction and poetry – with the twist that they must include both an English version and a translation into another language by the entrant.

The possibilities include Modern Standard Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish, Thai or Indonesian.

Director of IIS, Professor Stephanie Hemelryk Donald, said the international focus of the Nobel exhibition was a great opportunity to highlight the importance of languages education, particularly at a time of public debate about the erosion of language skills in Australia.

The Beautiful Minds: Cultures of Creativity Writing Competition has two categories – current high school students and current undergraduate university students Australia-wide. The maximum word length in the schools category is 500 words (the English component) and 800 words for university students.

Schools will be asked to provide no more than two entries per school, either from nominated students or selected from a pool of potential entries. The due date for entries in both categories is 14 June.

The prizes are, for the winners in each category, a HP iPAQ Mobile Messenger (for high school students) or a HP iPAQ Mobile Messenger and Tom Tom Navigator (for University students). Additionally, there are 10 sub-category prizes that will be awarded at the judge's discretion. Winners of the sub-category prizes will each receive a \$100 voucher from the Co-op Bookshop.

Beautiful Minds, the centennial exhibition of the Nobel prizes is showing on the ground floor of the UTS Tower building on Sydney's Broadway until Saturday 30 June.

The exhibition, curated by the Nobel Museum in Stockholm, has been touring the world since it opened in Sweden in 2001. UTS is the only Australian destination for the exhibition, which provides an historic overview of the Nobel Prizes and its founder Alfred Nobel.

The exhibition is packed with multimedia, still and moving images of Nobel laureates and personal tools of prize winners. An extensive lecture and special events program, including a schools program, is being run in conjunction with the exhibition and features many distinguished Nobel Laureates.

For more on the Nobel exhibition and the Beautiful Minds: Cultures of Creativity Writing Competition, visit the exhibition website <http://www.nobel.uts.edu.au/>

Any questions about the writing competition can also be referred to Damien Spry at the Institute for International Studies, UTS on (02) 9514 1769 or damien.spry@uts.edu.au.

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