



**Entry Form for the 2014 contest for the
Bardic Chair of Ynys Witrin
for performance of original poetry, story or song on the theme of**

The Waters of Avalon

This year we will be closing the competition when we have received completed forms from the first 12 entrants. Entry forms are to be returned to **Flat4, 41 Benedict St.** or the **Library of Avalon** by midnight 12th May. Contenders will have a maximum of 10 minutes to perform at the trials on 13th May and finalists will have a maximum of 15 minutes to perform at the finals on 19th May.

Tell us how you would like to be contacted should the need arise. Your details will only be used to tell you about Gorsedd proceedings and we won't pass this information on to anyone else.

Name:

Address:

E-mail address:

Home phone/mobile:

Publication

I am happy to allow the Bardic Council licence to publish my entry as part of a public record of proceedings:

In text format

In audio format

In video format

On the internet (Please tick to agree!)

I wish to offer myself as a candidate for the Bardic Chair of Ynys Witrin. I am aware of the Rules of Entry, the Theme and the contest arrangements. I agree to these conditions and to carry out the Responsibilities of the Chaired Bard if elected to the Chair.

Signed:

Rules of entry to the Bardic Trials

1. This contest is open to all within a day's walking distance from Glastonbury
Note: The catchment area is defined as the distance that the Bard can reasonably be expected to walk into Glastonbury, perform their duties and return home again within the daylight hours. We have decided this is 12 miles radius from the Tor.
2. The winner will be the holder of the Bardic Chair of Ynys Witrin for the following year, a title which will be revoked after a year and day.
3. The entry may be of any form, but the judges will consider relevance to the theme, adherence to the time limit and performance from memory as important in making their decision.
4. The judges have the right to refrain from selecting a Chaired Bard if they feel none of the candidates are of sufficient quality or ability to fulfil the role. In this case the outgoing Chaired Bard will remain in office for another year and a day.
5. The judges' decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into.
6. The attention of the chosen and Chaired Bard will be drawn by the Council to 'The role and responsibilities of the Chaired Bard of Ynys Witrin' (hereto appended).
7. Previous winners of the Bardic Chair of Ynys Witrin may re-enter after 3 years.
8. The holder of the Chair is expected either to undertake to maintain the condition of the Chair, Ceremonial Robes, Silver Branch and Book, or to request the Secretary to make appropriate arrangements for their curation. The official artefacts must be returned to the Bardic Council at the next Annual Open Gorsedd.
9. The Gorsedd retain the right to change these rules as necessary by committee meeting.

Judges' Criteria:

- Inspiration / Originality
- Presence
- Spontaneity / Working with the audience
- Emotive appeal
- Artistry / Craft / Literary merit
- Wisdom and / or Foolishness
- Relevance to the theme
- Knowledge of Bardic Lore and Celtic Mythology

Points awarded from 1-5 for each quality and an additional point may be added or subtracted for 'relevance' and 'audience'. There is a minimum number of points that the winner must get in all categories, in order to 'be deemed to have met the standard,' which is at least three points in each quality; the final tally is a guide to the judging process. The judges are also looking at Bardic relevance and understanding and the whole picture of the performance in context; in particular the judges should be looking to find a balance between the calibre of the performance and the quality of the words. It is also important that the incoming Bard is able to "bring something to the role".

Bards are primarily judged on their use of words, but other musical and performance skills may also be considered as relevant.

For further information on the role and responsibilities of the Bard please see:

<http://ynyswitrin.org.uk/bardic/rules/>
<http://ynyswitrin.org.uk/bardic/rules/#responsibilities>