

रामन विज्ञान केन्द्र एवं तारामंडल
(राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान संग्रहालय परिषद)
संस्कृती मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार
गांधीसागर के सामने, नागपुर- ४४००१८
टे. फॅक्स: (०७९२) २७३५८००



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From: Project Co-ordinator
RSCN/Sci-fi Story/2013-14/
To,

Date: 21.01.2014

Sub: Young Writers Sci – Fi Short Story Writing Event

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are happy to inform you that Raman Science Centre in collaboration with XRadianZ is organising **Young Writers Sci – Fi Short Story Writing Event** for the students of class V to Class XII. The details are as below:

Theme

India launched its 300-day mission to the Red Planet, Mars, in December 2013. The Mangalyaan or the Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) is designed to demonstrate our technological capability to reach Mars orbit. It will cruise for 680m km setting up an encounter with the Planet in September 2014. Earlier, in 2009, the discovery of water on the Moon spurred imagination about the possibility for mankind to settle in space.

However, big challenges remain. There is no air, atmosphere or food in space. Conditions are extremely unfavorable, with extremes of temperature, pressures, and unpredictable and violent natural phenomena of the kind we have never seen on the earth, making the entire extra-terrestrial space extremely unsafe and treacherous.

Given the hostile environment, how will we breathe? What will we eat? What will we need to wear? What kind of houses will we live in? How will we travel? What will a typical day be like in space?

This short-story science fiction writing event is intended to lead students of science into a journey of imagination – not wild enough to be impossible and not completely scientific to be scholarly – but a balanced combination of science and fiction. Above all, it should be an interesting, entertaining and engaging narration of how human beings can achieve their goal to better understand and tame this mysterious dimension called space.

Writers can imagine strange and exotic characters, flying objects, mystifying Gods and shadowy demons and specters that simultaneously please, plague and torment, and dazzling – albeit dangerous – natural phenomena that defy the laws of physics, and so on..., and beyond this the author is absolute, the Creator, in his or own right, and there are no rules.

Rules for the Event

1. The event is open for Class V-XII students
2. Stories must be between four to six one-sided A4 size paper
3. Stories should be written legibly in English, Hindi or Marathi and must be own, original & unpublished
4. Submissions are accepted in following formats –
One copy of original hand-written stories and one photocopy to be submitted to the office of Raman Science Centre, Opp. Gandhi Sagar, Nagpur or to Harshawardhan Bal at the XRadianZ offices (1, Sawarkar Nagar, Khamla Rd., Opp. Ram Gaddi Bhandar, Nagpur 440015)
5. Stories must not have been submitted or accepted elsewhere at the time of submission
6. Winners' names and stories will be published in Flash O'RadianZ
7. There is no entry fee for the event
8. Every entrant will receive a certificate of participation
9. Stories will not be returned and Raman Science Center & XRadianZ reserve rights to all entries
10. Stories will be evaluated by Raman Science Center & XRadianZ and all decisions will be final and binding

Event Schedule

Notification in schools:	20 th January 2014
Last date for submissions:	15 th Feb, 2014
Results declaration date:	1 st week of March, 2014
Prize Distribution date:	7 th March, 2014

Organization details

1. Entries will be evaluated and prize winning entries will be selected by Raman Science Center & XRadianZ.
2. Raman Science Center will declare results in newspapers or by direct notification to students/schools
3. Participants will be divided into two groups for the purpose of evaluation:
 - a. Group A: Class V to VIII students
 - b. Group B: Class IX to XII students
4. Token prizes will be given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize winners from each category
5. Prize distribution ceremony and reading of stories by selected participants will be held during the National Science Day Celebration from 24th February to 07th March, 2014

You are requested to kindly bring this to the notice of the interested students of your school and submit the stories in stipulated time and in required format.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,



(V.N. Joshi)

Project Co-ordinator