

# KOESTLER ARTS + ART AID

*Hello from Koestler Arts!*

*Koestler Arts + Art Aid sheets suggest creative tasks that can be done in-cell. For most all you need is paper and a pencil - though if you have further materials please use them.*

**You can enter the 2021 Koestler Awards now!**

*Please complete a Koestler entry form for every entry and see our guidance notes for full terms and conditions. Entry forms should be attached to this sheet. If not, or if you need more, please ask education, the library, or contact us at FREEPOST KOESTLER ARTS (no stamp or address needed). The deadline for submissions is Thursday 22 April 2021.*

*Each month Koestler Arts are commissioning an artist/writer who has directly engaged with Koestler to set a creative task. New Art Aid sheets will be available from the first and third Monday of each month as we approach the Awards deadline.*

## January 2021, Issue 2

*This month we have commissioned two of our former mentees, Charlotte (a writer) and James (a visual artist), to set tasks based on our 2021 Themed Category: Together. We asked our mentees for suggestions for our Themed Category and both Charlotte and James suggested 'Together'.*

### Charlotte's Task

'Together' feels more significant than ever. We've experienced a sense of being apart but all pulling together and also an important time to think about those who haven't felt together.

When I found out that another Mentee and myself had suggested 'Together' and it had been chosen as the 2021 Koestler Themed Category I screamed with delight. I felt I'd made a tiny difference and 'Together' we can make a bigger difference.

For this task, I would like you to think about **friendship** and what it means to you.

Friendship comes in many forms. Write a story or a letter about friendship. It could be about a childhood best friend, friends who have really come through for you when you least expected, or brand-new friendship.

On the other side of this sheet is a prompt I have written. Either have a go at finishing my story, or write your own from scratch.

**Image (Left):** *Fate Would Have It So* (detail)

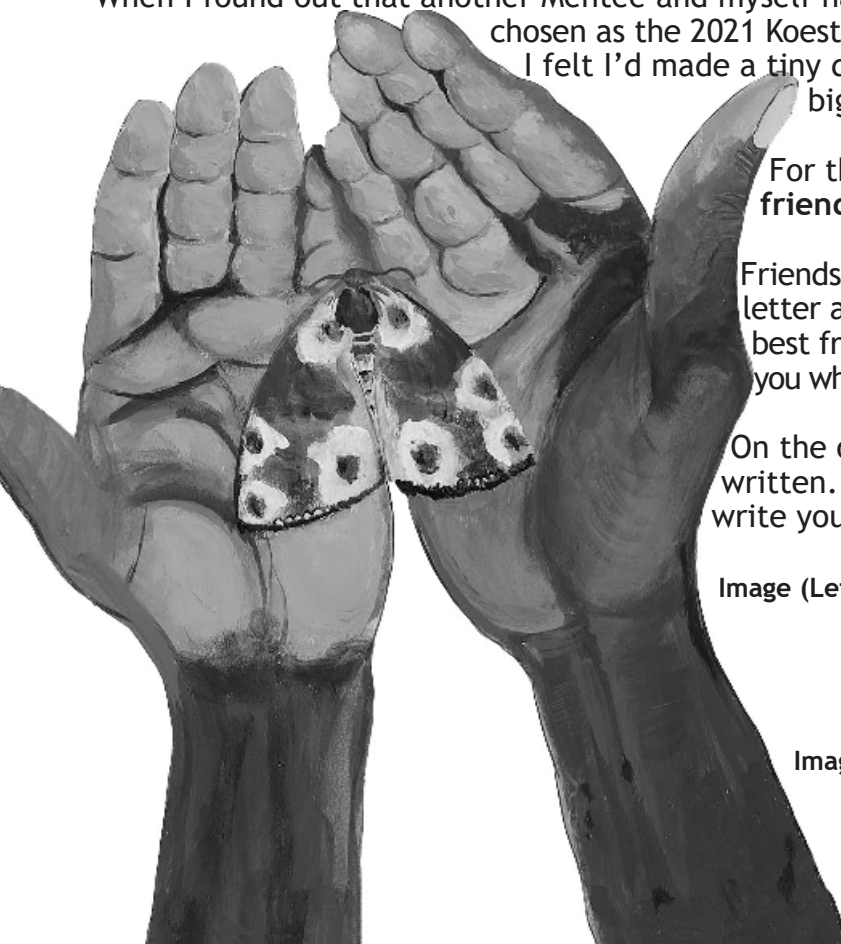
HM Prison Wandsworth

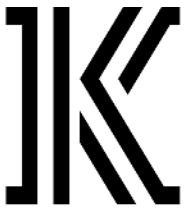
Highly Commended Award for Themed Category: Window, 2020

**Image (Overleaf):** *Zoology Part 2 - Penguins*

The Spinney (secure hospital)

Keep At It! Bronze Award for Painting, 2020



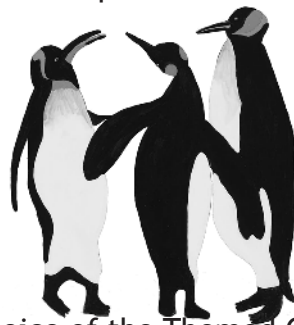


## Charlotte's Prompt: *My Childhood Best Friend*

She lived two doors down from me and was pretty and confident. She was 15 months older than me and we saw each other all the time. I don't remember a time when I didn't know her or her family. We got up to endless mischief as children, and as teenagers we spent many hours playing 80's music and reading Smash Hits. Lizzie was my best friend, even if I wasn't hers.

When she got her first job, she forged new friendships and I was side-lined. I wasn't a bridesmaid at her wedding but I disguised my hurt at not being asked. By the time we were in our 40s we'd lost contact completely. When I received a phone call from an ex boyfriend asking if I remembered Lizzie Turner I wasn't prepared for what he was about to tell me...

**Tip:** Don't overthink it. Write about a friendship that immediately springs to mind or use my story as your starting point.



## James' Task

When Koestler Arts told me that the choice of the Themed Category for 2021 was my suggestion it was a great surprise. I suggested 'Together' because I felt that in 2020 all of us, no matter what our circumstances, have missed someone. I also thought that it had a wide scope so would inspire a range of ideas and approaches. So please have a go, have fun and enter the Koestler Awards!

- 1) Think about the person you have missed the most over the past year (I consider pets to count too - my dogs are like children to me).
- 2) Take some time to think about this person, try to do this at a time when you can focus on just this and think about memories of them. Don't be afraid to feel the emotions, these will feed into the next step. Spend at least 10 minutes on this step, or longer if you want.
- 3) Write down 4 to 6 words that sum up your chosen person and your feelings triggered by thinking about them and the memories you have shared. You might come up with more but filter them down to the really important keywords.
- 4) Take the words you have and use them to create a work in your usual artform, using the memories and emotions from step 2 to help you create something that really means something to you and is truly personal - the best art comes when you are emotionally connected to the work. You could draw, paint, write poetry, write a song and much more.
- 5) (Optional) Try bringing your usual artform together with another, for example if you usually write poetry you could try adding some illustrations, if you usually paint you could add in text or use collage.... The possibilities are endless.

I enjoy using collage in my own paintings so for me I would use letters written by the person or photographs of them to create a background, before painting a portrait or creating an abstract work using how I feel to guide colour choice and how the paint is applied to the surface.

# KOESTLER AWARDS ENTRY FORM



Send a completed form with each entry.  
Maximum 5 entries per entrant.  
2021 closing date: Thursday 22 April.

## ENTRANT (For groups – see the next page)

First name of entrant:

Last name of entrant:

Date of birth: (May be needed for processing payments)

## ENTRY

Establishment: (Name of prison, hospital or probation service)

Title of entry:

Artform: (Choose one artform from the 2021 Awards Guidance)

Visual description of entry:

## AUTHORISED MEMBER OF STAFF

Full name:

Job title:

Department:

Telephone number:

Email:

Office postcode: (Probation only)

For Koestler Arts staff			
K. No.	Artform	Supp. docs	No. of items
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Prison or hospital number:

Signature of entrant:

Is this the first time you have entered the Awards?

Yes  No

**Using your name:** (Authorised staff must agree)

If my entry is exhibited or published, I give permission for my first name to appear alongside it.  Yes  No

**Sales of visual artwork:** (Tick one choice only)

- My entry is for sale. The lowest amount I'd be willing to receive is £  (maximum £250)
- My entry is not for sale.
- I donate my entry to Koestler Arts.

Can the entrant's first name be made public?

Yes  No

Can the entry be sold? (Visual arts only)

Yes  No

Who should any cheques be payable to?

I confirm that this entry is the entrant's own original work, and approve it for entry into the Koestler Awards.

Signature of staff: (Entries can't be accepted without staff sign-off)

Date:

**Unlock the talent inside**

Turn for page 2 →

## GROUP ENTRIES ONLY — TELL US ABOUT YOUR GROUP

Name of group:

Number of people excl. staff:





First name: Last name: Date of birth: Prison or hospital number: Release date if in 2021, and home address:

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Continue on a separate sheet if needed. If there are over 4 people in the group cheques will not be split.

### ENTRANTS WHO ARE IN THE COMMUNITY OR DUE FOR RELEASE IN 2021

Please notify us if these details change

Date of release:

Home address:

Postcode:

Telephone number:

Email:

### ASSOCIATES PROGRAMME

Associates benefit from more contact with us, through the Koestler Associates newsletter.

I would like to be part of the Associates Programme.

### REMINDERS

Entrants agree to the terms and conditions in the Awards Guidance. These are available on our website, from your establishment, or you can write to us to request a copy.

✓ Information submitted on this form will be held on the Koestler Arts secure and confidential database.

✓ All work is handled with care, but Koestler Arts and its agents accept no liability for loss or damage to entries.

✓ Pack your work carefully. It must be under 15kg.

✓ Koestler Arts and its agents can exhibit, publish, and reproduce artworks in reasonable ways in print, online, film, audio etc to promote the charity's work. Artists retain copyright of their work.

✓ Koestler Arts can try to sell visual entries, if we have both your permission and that of the 'authorised member of staff.' Most work sells for under £100.

✓ We do not return written entries or work on CDs/ DVDs. These include writing, performance, audio, film and animation entries – so please make copies.

### MONITORING FOR DIVERSITY OPTIONAL

This anonymised data will not be used to judge your work. It is for research and monitoring purposes only.

#### Ethnic group

- Asian/Asian British: Bangladeshi
- Asian/Asian British: Indian
- Asian/Asian British: Pakistani
- Any other Asian background
- Black/Black British: African
- Black/Black British: Caribbean
- Any other Black background
- Chinese
- Irish Traveller/Gypsy

- Mixed White & Asian
- Mixed White & Black African
- Mixed White & Black Caribbean
- Any other Mixed background
- White British
- Any other White background
- Any other group:

#### Formal education completed

- No formal qualifications
- Basic skills level 1
- Basic skills level 2
- GCSEs or A Levels
- Vocational training
- Degree or post-graduate

#### I am:

- Ex-armed forces personnel
- A care leaver

#### Gender

- Male
- Female
- Other

#### Age

- Under 16
- 16-17
- 18
- 19-24
- 25-29
- 30-59
- 60 and over

#### Religion

- Atheist
- Buddhist
- Christian
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Sikh
- Other

#### Registered disabled?

- Yes  No