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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**The London Library Student Prize 2013 – Open for entries**

The London Library is delighted to announce the launch of The London Library Student Prize 2013. Open for entries from all final year undergraduates studying at higher education institutions across the UK, and with a fantastic package of prizes available, the competition offers the ultimate kick-start to your first year as a graduate.

Working with *The Times* and graduate recruitment site Milkround, The London Library is looking to discover the next generation of writers, thinkers and opinion formers.

Now in its second year, the competition is an opportunity for students to expose their writing talent to thousands of readers – the winning piece will appear in the comment pages of *The Times* and in The London Library Magazine.

The first prize winner will also receive £5,000, 1 year's membership of The London Library and 1 year's subscription to *The Times*. 3 Runners-Up will receive £1,000, 1 year's membership of The London Library and 1 year's subscription to *The Times*.

The winner and runners-up will also have the opportunity to spend some time with journalists at *The Times* as part of a mini-internship.

Erica Wagner, Literary Editor at *The Times* said "What a delight it is being involved in The London Library Student Prize. We're keen at *The Times* to foster talent in the brightest and the best – this is a wonderful way to do that."

The theme of the competition is '*Gap years: a new form of colonialism?*' Students from all degree disciplines are encouraged to enter.

The judging panel will include journalist and Chairman of The London Library Trustees Bill Emmott, *The Times* Saturday Review Editor Tom Gatti, *The Times* Literary Editor Erica Wagner and award-winning author Patrick Ness.

Submissions should be no longer than 800 words and the deadline for entries is midnight on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2013. The judging panel will select a winner and three runners-up, to be announced in April 2013.

Hundreds of final year undergraduates studying at universities across the UK entered the inaugural London Library Student Prize 2011/12. On being named as 1<sup>st</sup> Prize winner in April 2012, Philosophy and German student Ben Mason said "There is pessimism about the prospect of graduating in such uncertain times, and I think this Prize, providing great opportunity whilst simultaneously encouraging young people to think creatively about solutions to the challenges facing us, sends an important positive message."

For further information and to enter visit [www.londonlibrarystudentprize.com](http://www.londonlibrarystudentprize.com)

**/ ENDS**

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For further information and images please contact Elena Smith on 020 7766 4704 or email [elena.smith@londonlibrary.co.uk](mailto:elena.smith@londonlibrary.co.uk)

#### *NOTES FOR EDITORS*

The London Library, St James's Square, was founded in 1841 and is the world's largest independent lending library. Its broad and eclectic collection covers a vast number of subjects across the humanities, with books dating from the 16th Century to the latest print and digital resources. It has over one million volumes, stored on 15 miles of open-access shelves which may be freely browsed with over 97% available for loan.

With over 7000 current members, the Library has provided an invaluable resource to writers, researchers and avid readers for over 160 years. Past and present members include Charles Darwin, George Eliot, Virginia Woolf, T.S. Eliot, Bruce Chatwin, Sebastian Faulks, Jeremy Paxman, Antonia Fraser and current president Sir Tom Stoppard. Membership of the London Library is open to all.

**Young Person's Membership of the Library, for 16-24 year olds, is priced at half the standard fee: £225 a year, or £18.75 a month.** Standard individual annual membership is £445 a year, or £37.08 a month.

The Library also offers Supported Memberships: members or prospective members unable to meet the full annual fee may be eligible for **Carlyle Membership** from The London Library Trust, a small charitable body administered for the benefit of the Library. Assistance will normally cover 30% or, in some cases 60% of the annual subscription fee.

The Library is a registered charity and receives no government or statutory funding and is funded entirely by members' subscriptions, donations and bequests. In summer 2010 the Library completed the second phase of its historic refurbishment designed by Haworth Tompkins Architects

The London Library, 14 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4LG.  
Nearest underground: Piccadilly, Green Park

[www.londonlibrary.co.uk](http://www.londonlibrary.co.uk)