

MANGA JIMAN COMPETITION 2026– RULES & REGULATIONS

Write and illustrate an original *manga*

1. ELIGIBILITY

- 1.i** The competition is open to all legal residents of the United Kingdom who are, or will be, over the age of fourteen (14) by 1 January 2027. The Embassy of Japan reserves the right to ask for proof of identity and address as a condition of winning.
- 1.ii** If an entrant is under the age of eighteen (18), his/her parent or legal guardian must also complete and sign the official Competition Entry Form.
- 1.iii** An entrant can submit more than one entry. Each submission must be accompanied by a different competition entry form.
- 1.iv** The first-prize winner of the previous year's competition is not allowed to enter this year's competition. Second- and third-prize winners are eligible to enter again.
- 1.v** Entrants to Manga Jiman are also permitted to submit an entry to Yonkoma 14+, should they wish to do so.

2. CONDITIONS

- 2.i** The *manga* must be an original creation which has never been published or publicly displayed before. AI-generated art or text will not be accepted. Collaborations are permitted.
- 2.ii** The *manga* must be written in English.
- 2.iii** The *manga* must be six to eight (6-8) pages in length and can either be a complete or part of a story. Title pages must be included within the total number of pages. Each page must be A4 portrait size.
- 2.iv** Manga must be drawn so that it reads from left to right.
- 2.v** The *manga* must make some reference, either visual or written, to this year's theme: '**20**'. Please highlight your reference on the entry form.
- 2.vi** The entry can be in either in full colour, black and white or any combination. No special consideration will be given to colour entries over those in black and white.
- 2.vii** Entries can be submitted by either post or as PDF files emailed to the Embassy.
 - All posted entries should be **photocopies** of the original artwork. The Embassy of Japan reserves the right to request original artwork from the winners for exhibition after the closing date of the competition. Clearly print your name, on the back of each page of the photocopies.
 - Digital artwork should be sent as PDF files, sized to A4. Please note that our email account (manga@ld.mofa.go.jp) can accept attachments up to 10MB. For larger files, please use a shared drive or a file transfer service. Contact us should you have any technical questions.

Upon receipt of an entry, a confirmation email will be sent to the entrant. If you have not received a confirmation email within 5 working days, please get in touch.

- 2.viii** The Embassy of Japan reserves the right to use any part of any entry for its own purposes.
- 2.ix** Entries will only be accepted accompanied by an official and completed entry form downloaded from: https://www.uk.emb-japan.go.jp/itprtop_en/index.html or www.mangajiman.co.uk
- 2.x** **Artwork and completed entry forms** should be sent together

by post to:
MANGA JIMAN COMPETITION 2026

Japan Information and Cultural Centre
Embassy of Japan
101/104 Piccadilly
London W1J 7JT

OR

by email to: manga@ld.mofa.go.jp

- 2.xi The closing date for receiving entries is **5pm, Monday 4 January 2027**. Late submissions will not be considered. The Embassy of Japan is not responsible for lost, delayed, incomplete or damaged entries.
- 2.xii Regrettably, submissions cannot be returned nor any postage paid.
- 2.xiii The Embassy of Japan reserves the right to modify the terms and conditions of this competition at any time without prior notice.

3. JUDGING CRITERIA

- 3.i Entries will be judged on originality, storytelling, layout and design, character design, use of onomatopoeia and other such signifiers of *manga*, artistic ability and style.
- 3.ii Entries will be judged by members of the Embassy of Japan, a panel of manga experts and publishing experts.
- 3.iii The judges' decision is final.

4. INELIGIBILITY

- 4.i An entry which does not meet the entry specifications will not be eligible.
- 4.ii Any entry which contains reference to, or explicit depiction of, gratuitous acts of violence or of a sexual nature, nudity, obscenity and indecency, and any actions deemed offensive or considered inappropriate for exhibition at the Embassy will be disqualified.
- 4.iii Employees of the Embassy of Japan and their families are not eligible to enter the competition.

5. PRIZES

- 5.i First Prize: a special prize chosen for the winner by **Japanese Gallery Kensington**
- 5.ii Runners-up prizes include:
 - publications from **Fanfare**
 - publications from **SelfMadeHero**
 - wagashi* from **Minamoto Kitchoan**
 - electrical goods from **Daikin**
 - membership from **Regent Street Cinema**
 - vouchers from **Japan Centre**
 - and a selection of other *manga*-related and Japan-related prizes.
- 5.iii The winners' works will be displayed at the Embassy of Japan in a special *manga* competition exhibition
- 5.iv Prizes are non-exchangeable, non-returnable, non-transferable and not redeemable for cash prizes.
- 5.v A list of finalists will be available from the Embassy of Japan website (https://www.uk.emb-japan.go.jp/itprtop_en/index.html) and prizes will be awarded in early 2027.
- 5.vi You agree, by your entry in this competition, that the Embassy of Japan can publicise your name on the Embassy of Japan's website if you are a winner.