



صندوق الوطن  
Sandoog Al Watan



وزارة التسامح والتعايش  
MINISTRY OF TOLERANCE & COEXISTENCE

# In the Year of the Community "Hand in Hand"



## Writing Competition About **What the UAE means to me**

A vibrant picture of a cohesive community  
**proud of its national identity** and  
embodying the best human principles

This initiative is a joint collaboration between Sandoog Al Watan  
and the Ministry of Tolerance and Coexistence

# 2025

A vibrant  
Image of  
a cohesive  
community

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**This competition is a conscious response to the decision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of UAE, may God honor him, to designate 2025 as the Year of the Community in the country.**

It is a competition that shows the passionate feelings of both citizens and residents towards this dear country, and how the UAE is always in the heart and conscience of everyone who takes it as a home enjoying security, safety, and prosperity.



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## What the UAE means to me

It is an invitation to all citizens and residents of this good land, to participate with their writings, about their lives, impressions, and practical experiences in the UAE, Sandooq Al Watan and the Ministry of Tolerance and Coexistence are jointly publishing and widely distributing these writings, representing a wonderful celebration of the population and cultural diversity in the country, and an effective contribution to strengthening the bonds of community cohesion, and a strong pride in the unique and prestigious characteristics of life in the beloved UAE.



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## Objective

- To deepen the principles of acquaintance, dialogue, and joint work among all members of the UAE community.
- To develop and enrich knowledge about the successful model of the country in patriotism, tolerance, coexistence, and human fraternity, and how people of different nationalities, religions, and cultures can live together in peace and harmony, in a harmonious society that enjoys happiness, cooperation, doing good, and positive contribution to the world's progress.



•  
**Short  
Story**



•  
**Article**



•  
**Nabati &  
Classical  
Poetry**



•  
**Reflections  
&  
Contemplations**



•  
**Letters &  
communication with  
Community  
Components**

The writings can be in either Arabic or English.

## Competition Description

The focus is on writing, where participants from all segments of society compete in producing writings **about their lives, impressions, and personal and professional experiences in the UAE**, through the following styles:

# Participant Categories

Males and females, citizens and residents:

All segments of society		•						•		•	
	<b>First</b> Ages 6 to 12 years		<b>Second</b> Ages 13 to 18 years				<b>Third</b> Ages 19 to 30 years		<b>Fourth</b> Ages 31 to 60 years		<b>Fifth</b> Ages 61 years and above
<b>Maximum Words Allowable</b>	500 words maximum		2000 words maximum				3000 words maximum		3000 words maximum		3000 words maximum





[www.myuaestory.ae](http://www.myuaestory.ae)



## Competition Terms

The competing writings are to be submitted on the competition's website, taking into account that this includes the following:

- Written production (noting that the participant may submit a max of 3 entries)
- Participant's name and appropriate age category (noting that the participant's name should not be added within the participation file).
- Language used.
- Nationality.
- Participant's address and phone number
- The participant pledges that what they submit is their own authorship and that they have not quoted it from elsewhere, and that they have not previously submitted it to another competition or published it elsewhere.
- The intellectual property of the winning works belongs to Sandooq Al Watan and the Ministry of Tolerance and Coexistence, which are the only entities that have the right to dispose of it, and the winner may not publish their work through any other publishing means, or participate with it in any other award.
- The participating works are subject to evaluation by a specialized committee, and its decision is final and not subject to appeal before any other entity.



## Use of Artificial Intelligence Tools

The competition allows for the conscious use of these tools to improve the final product, provided that the ideas and style of expression originate from the participants themselves, with the submission of a pledge indicating how these tools were used, and signing to confirm that the contestant has independently chosen the topic and content of their writings.



## Submission Dates

Entries will be accepted until the end of November 2025.

## Results Announcement

The results will be announced in early February 2026, during the annual Human Fraternity Festival.

## Prizes & Recognition

- Each accepted creative production, as per the decision of the technical committee, will be awarded a financial amount as follows for the participant categories:
  - First category, ages 6 to 12 years: 250 dirhams.
  - Second category: 500 dirhams for ages 13 to 18 years.
  - Other categories: 1000 dirhams.
- Special celebrations will also be organized for outstanding works.

## Publication of Winning Writings

The winning writings will be published in books issued in both Arabic and English, in addition to making them available electronically, and organizing celebrations for the winners.



## Competition

# What the UAE means to me



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