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The Ministry of Education with an organizational support of the Republican Children - Youth Development Center has launched an international creative competition called "Dear Shusha, you are free! Dear Shusha, we are back!", which will be held from the 13<sup>th</sup> of November to the 31<sup>st</sup> of December of the current year.

Due to the current pandemic situation, the competition, organized on the online platform, will be held in 3 age groups (9-11 years old, 12-14 years old, 15-17 years old) and 4 nominations (essay, poem, song, speech). Young people aged 18-28 years old can also join the competition. Participants can participate in 1 nomination and prepare their works on the submitted topics in Azerbaijani, Russian and English languages. The following conditions must be taken into account when preparing the work:

- **The essay** should have a title. It should not be more than one A4 page, it should be sent in printed form.
- **The poems** should have a title and should not exceed 40 lines. Poems must be sent in printed form.
- **The song** should not exceed 4 minutes. Songs will be evaluated based on melody, composition, originality and lyrics (if necessary). Writing quality is not taken into account. The lyrics of the song must be sent in printed form.
- Speeches in the speech nomination should not exceed 3 minutes and should be sent in video or audio format. The text of the speech must be sent in hard copy.

Those wishing to participate in the competition must send information about themselves (name, surname, date of birth, educational institution, country, city, address and contact number) to [shushacompetition@gmail.com](mailto:shushacompetition@gmail.com) together with their works. You can contact us at (012) 492-57-67, (055) 902-38-56 (WhatsApp).

The winners of the competition will be announced in January next year and will be awarded with diplomas and valuable prizes.

It should be noted that the main purpose of the competition is to create new literary texts on the liberation of our occupied lands, to raise the spirit of military patriotism among our people, to instill in young people such noble feelings as national solidarity and heroism. The competition also aims to identify talented children and raise their artistic and aesthetic level.