

Inside My Purse Writing Competition: Guidelines

Let's Talk About "THE TALK" **A writing competition**

How should we talk to adolescent girls about their sexuality and sexual pleasure?

When it comes to your sexual health, what information do you wish someone had shared with you when you were younger? Or what information do you wish was available to you now? We'd love to hear from you about what you think are the best ways to share information with young girls about sexual health and sexual pleasure, without judgment or stigma.

Entry format

Tell us: ***How should we talk to adolescent girls about their sexuality and sexual pleasure?***

- Entries should be 400-700 words.
- Entries must be written in English.
- Entries must reflect your own work and original thinking and may not infringe on the intellectual property rights of any other party.
- Any quotations or copyrighted material must be identified and referenced.

We welcome entries from a diverse range of voices. To ensure that content is appropriate for people from different backgrounds, including gender, age, culture and faith, we ask that:

- You write from your own personal or professional experiences. The best entries are those that are grounded in what you know best.
- You refrain from providing medical advice.
- You refrain from discussing abortion.
- Your entry's content supports Inside My Purse's primary objective.
- You are respectful and mindful that others may have different views.
- You avoid cultural, racial or gender-based stereotypes that could be misinterpreted by a reader.

The deadline to enter is September 4, 2021; entries received after this date will not be considered. To enter, submit your entry [here](#).

By entering this competition, you agree to accept and be bound by the terms and conditions outlined in this document and acknowledge that failure to comply with them may result in disqualification. Please ensure that you read this document in full.

In case of any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We look forward to reading your entries!

Eligibility

- The competition is open to women ages 18 and older who are African citizens. We especially encourage entries from young women.

- Inside My Purse is a project of the International Partnership for Microbicides (IPM). IPM staff or their family members, or any of IPM's partners, vendors or representatives are not eligible to enter.
- There is no entry or participation fee.

Evaluation

- Entries will be reviewed by Inside My Purse/IPM staff, who will announce the winner or winners of the competition ("Winner(s)") on September 27, 2021
- Entries will be evaluated on:
 - **Content:** Relevance and creativity in response to the competition theme.
 - **Organisation and Ideas:** Organisation and clarity of ideas, and whether the post captures the readers' attention.
 - **Voice:** How the writer expresses her unique perspective.
 - **Grammar and punctuation:** To ensure readability.

Prizes

- Prizes include:
 - Featured post on the Inside My Purse website and/or Facebook page.
 - The grand prize of \$300.
 - Granting of a prize does not constitute any contract, obligation or other legal relationship between Winner(s) and IPM.

Selection and notification of Winner(s)

- Winner(s) will be announced on Inside My Purse's Facebook page. Winner(s) will be chosen at the sole and absolute discretion of Inside My Purse/IPM, who is not obligated to inform or otherwise update those competition entrants who did not win.
- Inside My Purse/IPM's decision is final and at its sole discretion. No correspondence or discussion will be entered into by us in relation to that decision.
- We will make all reasonable efforts to contact the Winner(s). Inside My Purse/IPM does not accept responsibility for Winner(s) who are unable to be contacted due to providing an incorrect email address on the entry form. If any Winner cannot be contacted or is not available or has not claimed their prize within 5 days of being contacted, Inside My Purse/IPM reserves the right to offer the prize to the next eligible entrant.

Additional terms and conditions

- You own the rights to your work. By submitting an entry, you grant Inside My Purse the right to make proofreading edits for clarity, to publish your post on the blog and/or social media channels, and to use your post in paid social media promotions. Substantive edits to your original work beyond grammar, punctuation or formatting would require your agreement, and possible revision, before publication.
- Entrants must have a valid bank account at the time of entry submission to allow ease of transactions should they win the competition.
- Entrants must obtain permission to share the names and stories of any individuals included in the piece, and are fully responsible for doing so, and should note when names have been changed.

- You submit your entry with the understanding of potential risks associated with publishing personal stories, e.g., if you, family members or other individuals are identifiable in the content.
- IPM and its agents and representatives are not responsible and will be held harmless for any losses, damages or injuries of any kind resulting from participation in the competition or any claims related to your submission.
- Entries will be disqualified that contain statements, facts, information or quotations that may encourage persecution of people on the grounds of race, opinion, religion, ability, nationality, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, profession or other persuasion; encourage the breaking of laws; or contain defamatory, obscene, offensive, or any other material deemed unsuitable or offensive.
- To the fullest extent permitted by law, IPM will not be liable where an entrant has breached local laws and/or regulations in connection with the competition.
- IPM reserves the right to alter or cancel the competition at its discretion, as well as to adapt the rules and awards at any time.