

# Competitions

## CHILD WRITES COMPETITION

The Child Writes Competition is open to Australian primary school-aged children. The winning writer will be paired with an illustrator to be mentored through a program that will result in a published book through Boogie Books. Submissions should be stories of no more than 800 words, and there is a fee of \$10 per entry. There is no deadline, with entries closing when 500 entries have been received. [www.childwrites.com.au/CW-Competition.html](http://www.childwrites.com.au/CW-Competition.html)

## PATRICK WHITE YOUNG INDIGENOUS WRITERS AWARD

These awards have been designed to encourage Indigenous Australians from kindergarten to year 12, studying in NSW, to put their reading, writing and creative skills into action. There are three themes to write to: 'The Wild', 'Then I heard the loudest noise...' and 'What Now'. There is also a group competition, in which Aboriginal students working together with classmates can develop a shared poem, story or play. The deadline for entries is 22 September, with a major prize and two encouragement awards on offer for each school year. For more information visit [www.aec.org.au/wordpress/patrick-white-award](http://www.aec.org.au/wordpress/patrick-white-award)

## HEYWIRE COMPETITION

The Heywire Competition is for Australian residents aged between sixteen and twenty-two who do not live in Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane, Perth or Sydney. Submissions must be true stories of you and/or your community. Entries are not limited to text, with photo, audio and video categories

also available. Text entries should be approximately 1,000 words. There is no entry fee. The prize is the opportunity for your story to be produced by the ABC and an all-expenses paid trip to the Heywire Youth Issues Forum in Canberra. Entries close 16 September. For more information visit [www.abc.net.au/heywire/competition](http://www.abc.net.au/heywire/competition)

## FIELD OF WORDS MEMOIR COMPETITION

Opening on 1 August, this competition is seeking entries that are based on real life and experiences. Pieces should be between 1,000 and 2,000 words in length. The winner will receive \$500, with the runner-up taking \$125. There is an entry fee of \$20 and a deadline for entries of 30 September. For further information visit [fieldofwords.com.au/memoir-submissions](http://fieldofwords.com.au/memoir-submissions)

## ABR PETER PORTER POETRY PRIZE

The Australian Book Review's Peter Porter Poetry Prize is open to original poems of no more than seventy-five lines, and to all poets around the world. First prize takes \$5,000 and a print of Arthur Boyd's *The Lady and the Unicorn*. The second placed poet wins \$2,000. Entry is \$15 for Australian Book Review subscribers and \$25 for non-subscribers, with a deadline of 3 December. For full details visit [www.australianbookreview.com.au](http://www.australianbookreview.com.au)

## WOLLONGONG WRITERS FESTIVAL SHORT STORY PRIZE

The theme for this year's Wollongong Writers Festival Short Story Prize is 'World Changing

Words', with stories of up to 2,500 words invited. The winner receives \$1,000 in cash and publication in the online literary journal Mascara Literary Review. There is a \$12 entry fee, a deadline of 15 September. For further details go to [www.wollongongwritersfestival.com/competitions](http://www.wollongongwritersfestival.com/competitions)

## PORT STEPHENS LITERATURE AWARD

Short stories of up to 2,000 words are invited for the *Port Stephens Examiner* Literature Award. First prize takes \$500, second place \$300 and third \$150. There is an entry fee of \$10 (and \$5 for subsequent entries) and a closing date of September 30. For complete details visit [tilligerry.com](http://tilligerry.com)

## ANDY GRIFFITHS KIDS' WRITING COMPETITION

Organised by Dymocks and Pan Macmillan, this competition invites Australian kids to enter their stories for an award judged by much-loved children's author Andy Griffiths. The theme is 'living in a treehouse' and the word limit for stories is 400 words. The competition closes on 2 October, with prizes including an exclusive illustration by Griffiths' collaborator Terry Denton and sets of books. For full information on how to enter, visit [www.dymocks.com.au/andy-griffiths-kids-writing-competition](http://www.dymocks.com.au/andy-griffiths-kids-writing-competition)

## THE 2018 SOMERSET NATIONAL NOVELLA WRITING COMPETITION

The Somerset National Novella Writing Competition is open to all Australian high school students or home-schooled students aged under



nineteen, and is an opportunity for literary growth as well as a number of prizes. Supported by Bond University and Penguin Group, the competition is for novellas of between 8,000 and 20,000 words. An entry fee of \$20 is payable, with the national winner awarded \$2,500 and a full editorial report from Random House (Australia). Entries close on 1 December. For full details go to [www.somerset.qld.edu.au/celebration-of-literature/competitions/novella-writing](http://www.somerset.qld.edu.au/celebration-of-literature/competitions/novella-writing)

### THE 2018 SOMERSET NATIONAL POETRY COMPETITION

The Somerset National Poetry Prize is designed to encourage a love of poetry among secondary school students and enrich youth literature. Entrants must be under nineteen years of age and be at high school or home-schooled. There is fee of \$15 for each entry, while there are two categories: years seven to nine and years ten to twelve. Poems should be no more than fifty lines. The winner of each category wins \$300 and flights to attend the Somerset Celebration of Literature. Deadline for entries is 8 December, with more information available at [www.somerset.qld.edu.au/celebration-of-literature/competitions/poetry-prize](http://www.somerset.qld.edu.au/celebration-of-literature/competitions/poetry-prize)

### NOOSA ARTS THEATRE PLAYWRITING COMPETITION

The Noosa Arts Theatre Playwriting Competition aims to foster and encourage playwrights, both amateur and professional. A prize money pool of \$8,000 is divided between the writers of the best three scripts, with \$5,000 awarded to Best Play. Entries close on 1 October, while the stage presentation is in 2018. A number of terms and

conditions should be consulted, see [www.noosaartstheatre.org.au/pages/playwriting-competition/entry-form.html](http://www.noosaartstheatre.org.au/pages/playwriting-competition/entry-form.html)

### THE HORNE PRIZE

Aesop and *The Saturday Paper* have combined for this new prize. The Horne Prize an essay prize that is seeking entries of up to 3,000 words on the theme 'Australian life'. Entries close on 18 September, with a shortlist announced on 17 November. The winning essay will be published in *The Saturday Paper* on 23 December. For full details on this competition, named after Australian writer Donald Horne, visit [www.thehorneprize.com.au](http://www.thehorneprize.com.au)

### ODYSSEY HOUSE VICTORIA SHORT STORY COMPETITION

The Odyssey House Victoria Short Story Competition is open to writers of all ages for submissions of stories up to 1,500 words. Stories should be based around the theme of 'Courage' and must deal with alcohol or drugs in some way. First prize wins \$1,000 plus membership of Writers Victoria. Deadline for entries is 3 November, with an entry fee of \$10 per story. For more information go to [www.odyssey.org.au/courage2017](http://www.odyssey.org.au/courage2017)

### SOUTHERN CROSS SHORT STORY COMPETITION

The Southern Cross Short Story Competition runs every second year in alternation with the Martha Richardson Memorial Poetry Prize. This competition invites entries of stories up to 3,000 words on an open theme. First prize wins \$1,000 and there is an entry fee of \$20. For

full details head to [ballaratwriters.com/competitions/southern-cross-short-story-competition-2017](http://ballaratwriters.com/competitions/southern-cross-short-story-competition-2017)

### MARGARET RIVER SHORT STORY COMPETITION

Open to authors living anywhere of any age, the Margaret River Short Story Competition welcomes short story submissions of a maximum of 3,000 words to an open theme. The first entry is \$15 and \$10 thereafter, with the winner taking \$500 and a trip to the Margaret River Readers and Writers Festival. Deadline is 10 October, for full details go to [www.margaretriverpress.com/submissions/margaret-river-short-story-competition](http://www.margaretriverpress.com/submissions/margaret-river-short-story-competition)

### THUNDERBOLT PRIZE

The New England Thunderbolt Prize for Crime Writing is a national award for unpublished short-form crime writing. Categories include fiction, non-fiction and poetry and offers prize money of \$500 for the winner in each. Entries close on 21 September, while there is an entry fee of \$10 per submission (\$5 for those under eighteen). For full entry details log on to [www.newc.org.au/thunderbolt-prize.html](http://www.newc.org.au/thunderbolt-prize.html)

### KSP MEMOIR COMPETITION

This memoir competition is seeking entries of 1,000 words, to a deadline of 15 September. One story entered attracts a fee of \$10, two for \$15 and three for \$20. First place wins \$300. There is also a youth section open to residents of Western Australia only. For further information visit [www.kspwriterscentre.com/memoir-competition](http://www.kspwriterscentre.com/memoir-competition)