

VICTORIAN PREMIER'S LITERARY AWARDS 2020 GUIDELINES

The Award for an Unpublished Manuscript by an emerging Victorian writer

General Information

The Victorian Premier's Literary Awards were inaugurated in 1985 by The Hon. John Cain, Premier of Victoria, to mark the centenary of the births of Vance and Nettie Palmer and to honour and reward literary achievement by Australian writers.

The Awards have received bipartisan support since their inception. In 2020 the Awards have a total prize pool of \$242,000.

The Victorian government has established the following vision and aims for the Awards:

- § to promote Victorian leadership by honouring Australian literature, ideas, innovation and learning;
- § recognise excellence in Australian writing and in contributions to the development of Australian culture;
- § advance the Victorian community's appreciation of Australian literature and encourage commitment to reading;
- § assist living authors in their careers and promote Victoria's literary and publishing industries;

The Awards are administered by the Wheeler Centre for Books, Writing and Ideas on behalf of the Premier of Victoria.

2020 Awards

In addition to the Award for an Unpublished Manuscript by an emerging Victorian writer, the 2020 Victorian Premier's Literary Awards include awards for fiction, non-fiction, writing for young adults, poetry and drama. Winners for all categories will be announced at the award ceremony on 30 January 2020. For information about the awards, see wheelercentre.com.

The Award for an Unpublished Manuscript by an emerging Victorian writer – \$15,000

Offered to a Victorian resident for an unpublished fiction manuscript, which may be a collection of stories or a novel.

Timeline: The Award for an Unpublished Manuscript 2020

Call for Entries	Monday 2 September 2019
Entries close	Monday 30 September 2019
Shortlist announced via wheelercentre.com	Monday 2 December 2019
Winner announced (event)	Thursday 30 January 2020

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The Award for an Unpublished Manuscript

by an emerging Victorian-based writer

Conditions and Guidelines

General

1. All works must be in English. Bilingual editions where one of the languages used is English are also eligible.
2. Submitted works will only be used for the purposes of the judging of this award. All reasonable care will be taken with works submitted but no responsibility is accepted for loss of manuscripts or other material received. Submitted works will be deleted once the judging process is complete.
3. In all cases not covered by these conditions and guidelines, or where there may be scope for interpretation, the nominator should seek clarification from the Wheeler Centre's Special Projects Coordinator, Hiroki Kobayashi, on 03 9094 7805.
4. In all matters relating to conditions of entry, the decision of the Wheeler Centre in consultation with the Premier is final. In all matters relating to judging of the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, the decision of the Wheeler Centre in consultation with judges is final.
5. Breach of the conditions of entry will render an entry invalid.

Eligibility

6. This award is offered for an unpublished fiction manuscript which may be a collection of stories or a novel.
 - 6.1 Only one entry per author will be accepted for this category in any one year.
 - 6.2 Manuscripts previously entered for this award, even if substantially reworked, will not be accepted.
 - 6.3 An 'emerging writer' is defined as an author who has not previously had a fiction book published. For the purposes of this award, an author who has been contracted by a publisher as at the closing date for entries is not eligible to enter this category.

6.4 The author must be a resident of Victoria for a period of one year up to and including the date of entry.

6.5 The nominated work must be submitted in the following format:

- PDF
- 1.5-spaced or double-spaced
- Pages should be numbered
- Please include a title page, including your name
- There is no minimum or maximum word limit. Manuscripts should be 'novel length'

Authorship

7. Only works by no more than two authors are eligible. Co-authorship is defined here as meaning joint responsibility by no more than two authors for the entire text. It is the responsibility of the nominator to correctly acknowledge joint authorship, where applicable.

7.1 Works of multiple authorship, including anthologies, are not eligible for nomination and may not be entered under the name of one of the authors, or of the editor.

7.2 The nominated work must be the author's own work.

7.3 Oral histories are ineligible unless the author claims artistic responsibility for a substantial part of the text.

7.4 Works may not be entered in the name of a committee.

Nomination

8. Please complete a separate nomination form for each entry.

8.1 Works may be submitted by writers or literary agents.

8.2 It is the responsibility of a nominator to ensure and demonstrate that the author's consent is obtained before nominating the work.

8.3 Nominations will only be accepted in PDF form. Hard copies will not be accepted.

8.4 Nomination forms must be submitted via the entry form on the Wheeler Centre website with the entry attached as a PDF by 5pm Monday 30 September 2019. If an error has occurred during the upload of the manuscript please contact the Special Projects Coordinator, Hiroki Kobayashi on vp1a@wheelercentre.com or 03 9094 7805 to arrange submission of the manuscript via email.

Entry Fee

9. There is an entry fee of \$25.00 for the Unpublished Manuscript category of the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards which should be paid via the entry form on the Wheeler Centre website.