

YOUNG WRITERS AWARD

2024 Young Writers Award terms and conditions of entry

State Library of Queensland invites entries to this year's short story award, which aims to find the best short fiction by a young Queensland resident. On offer in 2024 is a first prize of \$2,000, publication with *Kill Your Darlings* and a Queensland Writers Centre membership. Up to three runners-up will receive prizes of \$500 each plus Queensland Writers Centre membership. Judges may also recognise highly commended entries.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read and follow these terms and conditions of entry to ensure your story is eligible for the award.

General information

- Entry is free.
- The award is open to Queensland residents aged 18–25.
- Entries must be received by **5pm AEST on Monday 13 May 2024**.
- Late entries will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Author requirements

- To be eligible, the writer must be:
 - a Queensland resident on 13 May 2024, and
 - 18 to 25 years (inclusive) of age on 13 May 2024, and
 - living at the date of entry.
- Proof of residency and age will be required from all finalists.
- Only **one entry per person** will be accepted.
- If you have entered the Young Writers Award in the past, you are welcome to enter again, unless you have previously won the award.
- Previous finalists of the Young Writers Award are eligible to enter.

Story requirements

- The short story must:
 - be an original work written entirely by the entrant;
 - be written predominantly in English;
 - not currently entered in other writing competitions, or under submission to a publisher, or subject to contractual negotiations, or have previously won a prize (previously shortlisted is permitted);

- be unpublished; this is understood to mean that the story cannot have been previously published in print or online, including self-published or on a blog. Stories submitted to school or university courses (but not published publicly) are permitted.
- The maximum word count is 2,500 words.
- Entries over 2,500 words will not be accepted.
- Previously submitted stories are welcome.

Other award information

- The 2024 Young Writers Award prizes will be awarded to the entries that the judges consider as having the highest literary merit.
- The prizes are:
 - First prize: \$2,000, plus publication with *Kill Your Darlings* and a Queensland Writers Centre membership.
 - Up to three runners-up: \$500 each, plus a Queensland Writers Centre membership.
 - The judges may also acknowledge up to five highly commended writers.
- Entrants grant State Library of Queensland a perpetual non-exclusive worldwide license to publish their entered work digitally or in printed format. All finalists' stories will be published on the State Library website.
- The copyright of any material submitted remains with the author.
- *Kill Your Darlings* editor/s will work with the winning writer on their short story towards publication and a contract offered with industry-standard terms. An excerpt of the winning story will be published on the State Library website.
- The winner, runners-up and highly commended will be announced on the State Library website.
- The winner and runners-up should be prepared to participate in a small number of media and/or promotional opportunities at the time of, and in the year following, being awarded and published with *Kill Your Darlings*. These opportunities will be coordinated by the State Library's Marketing and Communications team and *Kill Your Darlings*.
- The winner and runners-up may be required to have their photo taken, or submit a headshot, for publicity purposes.
- The judges' decision is final; judges reserve the right to not award any or all prizes.
- If after reasonable efforts a Prize Winner cannot be contacted, cannot accept a prize or is deemed to be ineligible to enter the Award, State Library reserves the right to select a different Prize Winner, or no Prize Winner, and will publish the details of any different Prize Winner on State Library's website.

HOW TO ENTER

How to format your short story

- Do not include your name on any page of your entry. Submissions are judged anonymously.
- Please prepare your nomination using the format below:
 - stories must be submitted as a Word document (no PDFs)

- use Times New Roman, 12-point font
- use 1.5 line spacing with a three-centimetre page margin
- include the title of your story in the header of each page
- number each page
- the word count cannot exceed 2,500 words (excluding the title).
- Save your document file name as the title of your story **only**.
For example, Cinderella.doc
- Do not include your name anywhere in the file name or anywhere in the entry.
- Entries must be submitted via the online form by **5pm AEST on Monday 13 May 2024**.
- The entry form can be found at: <http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/ywa>
- Enter your contact details and upload your story as a Word document.
- Judges reserve the right to remove from the competition any entries not complying with these conditions.

INFORMATION AND ENQUIRIES

If you have any questions, please contact State Library of Queensland.

Email: ReadingWriting@slq.qld.gov.au

Web: <https://www.slq.qld.gov.au/ywa>

PRIVACY NOTICE

State Library of Queensland collects the minimum personal information necessary to process an entry and administer the Young Writers Award. We will only use the personal information from the online application form for the purpose for which it has been provided and for directly related purposes such as contacting the applicant, assessing the merits of the entry and to promote winning entries. We will not disclose personal information without the consent of the individual to whom the personal information relates, except for purposes directly related to administering this award program.

State Library of Queensland is subject to privacy legislation which applies to the Queensland public sector — the *Information Privacy Act 2009* (the Act). The Act contains several privacy principles that set out how agencies must handle personal information. Further information on the Queensland Government's information privacy scheme can be accessed through the Office of the Information Commissioner.