

State Library of Queensland announces 2025 Young Writers Award

Sam Quynh Huynh, 21, has won the 2025 State Library of Queensland Young Writers Award for their short story 'Offerings'.

The judges praised this story as “filled with beautifully observed sisterly moments, assured in its storytelling and the ways it explores memories”.

“I feel so incredibly lucky to have won such a generous prize,” said Sam. “You may never know the ways your writing can touch people.”

Sam receives \$2,000 from State Library plus free membership with Queensland Writers Centre (QWC). As part of their first prize, Sam will work with QWC to publish 'Offerings' in *WQ Magazine*.

Three runners-up receive \$500 and free membership to QWC:

- First runner-up: 'Lamb' by Tali Lum Wan, 24
- Second runner-up: 'Fair and Lovely' by Hasara Ekanayake, 19
- Third runner-up: 'Cleaning Up, Dragging Under' by Iris Monod, 21

This year, the judges noted 5 highly commended entries. They are:

- 'How the Lights Sits' by Eve Tramacchi O'Keeffe, 19
- 'Roses' by Sana J Shah, 18
- 'A Story of Two People' by Becca Wang, 23
- 'Swallowing Stolen Time' by Lillian White, 24
- 'Orange Folders' by Luke Gavin, 22

Quotes from State Librarian and CEO Vicki McDonald AM:

“Congratulations to these talented young Queensland writers and thank you to everyone who entered the 2025 Young Writers Award.

“We are thrilled to showcase new voices in Queensland’s thriving literary sector, and to play a part in supporting and amplifying the next generation of Queensland storytellers.”

Read the full results announcement, including the judges' comments, and Tali, Hasara and Iris's winning entries, here: slq.qld.gov.au/get-involved/awards-and-fellowships/young-writers-award