GUIDELINES

ENTRIES OPEN: Monday 19 February 2018

CLOSING DATE: 5pm Friday 6 April 2018

The NSW Premier’s History Awards were first presented in 1997 to honour distinguished achievement in history by Australian citizens and permanent residents. The awards assist in establishing values and standards in historical research and publication, and encourage everyone to appreciate and learn from the work of our historians.

Past winners have included Alan Atkinson, Joan Beaumont, Stuart Macintyre, KS Inglis, Inga Clendinnen, Bruce Scates, Ann McGrath and Grace Karskens.

The NSW Premier’s History Awards are administered by the State Library of NSW in association with Create NSW. We are pleased to acknowledge the support of the History Council of NSW.

Total prize money in 2018 is $75,000.

Nominations are sought for the following prizes:

- Australian History Prize
- General History Prize
- New South Wales Community and Regional History Prize
- Young People’s History Prize
- Digital History Prize.
ENTERING THE AWARDS

Entries must be received by the State Library of NSW (SLNSW) no later than 5pm Friday 6 April 2018.

All works must have been first published, broadcast, screened or made publicly available between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018.

ENTRY FEE

Please note that there is a $100 (including GST) entry fee for EACH nomination in EACH category.

Individual authors/creators/illustrators are exempt from paying the entry fee if they meet the following criteria:

- all Australian Senior and Pensioner cardholders
- Tertiary student cardholders (e.g. ISIC)
- Australian Government cardholders (e.g. unemployed, healthcare cards)
- Australian Government Department of Veterans Affairs cardholders.

Where the nomination is for a group of authors/creators/illustrators, all authors/creators/illustrators must be government cardholders in order to be eligible for a payment exemption.

A copy of your card must be uploaded electronically as part of your online nomination or alternatively, printed and sent to the State Library of NSW as part of your nomination.

Entry fees may be paid via credit card (Visa or Mastercard) as part of the online nomination process. Alternatively, payment may be made by cheque or money order, made payable to the State Library of NSW (ABN: 19 665 924 697), and included with your nomination. Please do not send cheques or money orders to the State Library’s Finance Department.

ELIGIBILITY PERIOD

All works nominated for the 2018 NSW Premier’s History Awards must be first published, broadcast, screened or made publicly available between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018.

Works eligible for nomination for the NSW Premier’s History Awards in a previous year are not eligible for nomination in this year’s awards.

A substantially revised edition of a previously published work can only be nominated if it has been published, produced, performed or made publicly available between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018.

Electronic versions of previously published books will not be accepted. Similarly, published versions of books originally released electronically before the current eligibility period will not be accepted.
CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Writers, creators and illustrators whose works are nominated must be living Australian citizens or persons holding permanent resident status.

Works published overseas are eligible if the author is an Australian citizen or holds permanent residency.

If a nominee dies or ceases to hold permanent resident status after his or her work has been nominated, the judges will not consider his or her work for an award. If, however, the judges recommend an award to an eligible nominee and that nominee dies before the award is presented, the Government may, at its discretion, pay the prize money to the nominee’s estate.

Works accepted for nomination include published books and ebooks, films, television and radio programs, and other digital formats including DVDs, websites and applications for mobile/handheld devices.

All works nominated for the 2018 NSW Premier’s History Awards must be presented in English (a work written by a living Australian historian in a language other than English can be nominated if the English translation is published within the eligible period).

A revised edition of a previously published work can only be nominated if it can be demonstrated that the revisions are so substantial that the work is, in effect, a new work. It is the nominator’s responsibility to identify the new material in a separate document and to include one copy of the original edition with the nomination form.

A collection of essays can be nominated if it contains predominantly new and original work. If it is an edited collection by various authors, the editor/s must have contributed a very significant introduction that contextualises the chapters and also must have contributed significant chapters themselves.

Works that are compilations of records or historical data and that offer neither interpretation nor analysis will not be considered.

Self-published books may be nominated, but unpublished manuscripts will not be considered.

Works incorporating Aboriginal Dreaming stories must be published or produced with the participation and permission of the traditional owners of the stories.

ebooks:
- must have an ISBN
- must be accompanied by four bound copies in print format.

Non-print media (excluding websites):
- can include, for example, a feature-length fiction film, a documentary film, a documentary for radio or television, DVD, or other form of multimedia;
- in the case of TV or radio series, only one episode, per writer, per series can be considered.
- should be first broadcast, screened or available (rather than produced) within the eligibility period. Works previously nominated for the NSW Premier’s History Awards are not eligible for consideration;
must be submitted in a format that is accessible to the awards judges, for example, DVDs should be cross-platform to suit Mac and Windows users;
- must be tested before submission.

Websites:
- must have been first made available during the eligibility period, and be available for viewing for 12 months after the closing date of these awards
- will be judged according to their state at the time of judging and not on their state before or after that time
- will be judged on publicly accessible content only
- must not breach copyright law or include any illegal material (the onus of responsibility is considered to belong to the entrant).

The State Library of NSW expects that winning and shortlisted applicants of the NSW Premier’s History Awards will be available to undertake a small number of activities to promote these awards up to and including the next year the Awards are presented. Activities may include media interviews (face-to-face or via electronic means), photographs or personal appearances at functions promoting these Awards, author events at the State Library, and, where possible, through the NSW Public Library Network.

Nominating a work

- Nominations may be made by authors/creators/ illustrators or their agents, by publishers, professional theatre companies, film distributors, production companies, or broadcasting companies or corporations.
- People or organisations nominating works on behalf of an author/s are deemed to be nominating with their consent. It is the responsibility of the nominator to ensure that consent is obtained from the author/s before nominating the work. The personal contact details of author/s must be included on the nomination form.
- It is the policy of the State Library of NSW that Award recipients have not or will not engage in behaviour that could be seen to bring the Award into disrepute. The State Library of NSW reserves the right to conduct criminal record checks if deemed necessary. The State Library of NSW has the right to withdraw the offer of prize money or demand the return of prize money already paid if it is discovered that any of the information provided in the application is false.
- There is no limit to the number of entries permitted, and up to five entries may be made on the one online form. For more than five entries, you will need to complete and submit another form.
- Each entry must be accompanied by appropriate payment (cheque or money order), if not paying online via credit card, or photocopied proof of exemption if applicable.
- Each nomination must be accompanied by four copies of the nominated work.
- Entries in ebook and DVD format must be accompanied by four bound copies of the printed text for assessment purposes. In some cases, additional copies of a work may be requested by the judges.
- Books and other material will not be returned to applicants. All reasonable care will be taken with works submitted, but no responsibility is accepted for loss or damage to books or other material.

- The State Library of NSW will acknowledge receipt of nominations for the NSW Premier’s History Awards only if requested.

- These general conditions of entry should be read in conjunction with the specific conditions for each prize and award which are set out on the following pages.

- Category definitions are provided to assist applicants in selecting the appropriate category for a work. If the judges believe a book has been submitted in the wrong category of the NSW Premier’s History Awards, or they believe it would be better judged in a different category, the State Library representative will contact the nominating publisher/author/agent. The final decision on the category in which a book is considered will rest with the judges.

THE JUDGING PROCESS

Who assesses the nominations?

The awards will be assessed by an independent committee of academics, historians and other sector professionals who have been appointed by the Premier or the Minister for the Arts or their delegates.

The committee will be divided into panels with a minimum of three persons on each.

The panels will assess against the following categories: Australian History, General History, New South Wales Community and Regional History, Young People’s History and Digital History.

What is the judging process?

Each panel will assess all nominated works in their category. The panel may consider the following criteria:

- quality of research
- scholarship and analysis
- writing and presentation
- the work’s contribution to a new understanding of history in the category in which it is nominated.

Panels may request additional information on nominations from applicants at this stage of the process. A panel may also take action as it considers appropriate to encourage the nomination of eligible works not already entered.

Each panel will select a shortlist (containing no more than three titles per category) and prepare judges’ comments for the consideration of the full committee.

If a panel decides against recommending an award in a particular category, the State Library of NSW and/or the Premier may select a fourth judge to provide separate advice on the award.

The committee’s final recommendations will be submitted to the Premier and/or Minister for the Arts, who will announce the shortlists at least four weeks before the announcement of the award.
winning titles. The shortlists, with the judges’ comments, will be posted on the State Library of NSW website www.sl.nsw.gov.au. Unsuccessful nominees will not be advised personally of the results.

The names of the winners, and the judges' comments, will be posted on the State Library of NSW website soon after their announcement. The decisions of the Premier and/or Minister for the Arts will be final and no discussion or correspondence will be entered into concerning the decisions.

2018 PRIZE CATEGORIES

The Australian History Prize ($15,000) is for a major work of non-fiction, published in book or ebook form, on Australian history. Entries should address subjects of national significance.

The General History Prize ($15,000) is for a major work of non-fiction, published in book or ebook form, on international history that is of national or international significance. Entries may address aspects of Australia’s place in world history, but it is expected that they will focus primarily on international subjects and be of interest to an international, as well as Australian, readership.

The New South Wales Community and Regional History Prize ($15,000) is for a major work of non-fiction, published in book or ebook form, that makes a significant contribution to the understanding of community, institutional, urban or regional history in NSW. Books which do not relate to NSW are ineligible for this prize.

The Young People’s History Prize ($15,000) for a published book or ebook, publicly screened or broadcasted film, television or radio program, DVD or website — fiction or non-fiction. All entries must be based on sound and accurate historical research and encourage further exploration of the past. The work should increase the understanding and appreciation of history by children and/or young adults as the intended audience. Published educational materials may be entered if they offer a critical examination and evaluation of material taken from primary sources, at a level appropriate for the intended readership. Textbooks will be considered if they:

- take a fresh approach to a topic;
- are based on or contain original research material;
- show creativity in methods of assessment; and
- show creativity in the approach to a curriculum or syllabus.

In the case of books containing original illustrations which are integral to the success of the book, the judges may determine that the award be shared by the writer and illustrator.

Digital History Prize ($15,000) for an Australian historian’s interpretation of an historical subject, using non-print media. Entries could include a feature-length fiction film, a documentary film, a documentary for radio or television, a DVD, website, application for mobile/handheld device or other form of multimedia. This award will be judged on the quality of historical research and analysis, artistic merit and effective and appropriate use of the medium. The production should communicate its subject in ways that engage and enlighten audiences and should encourage an interest in and appreciation for history.

General category information
Nominees may enter a published book or ebook in only one of the following categories:

- Australian History Prize
- General History Prize
• New South Wales Community and Regional History Prize
• Young People’s History Prize.

Nominees may enter a non-print media work such as a film, television, or radio program, a DVD, app or website in one or both of the following categories (if appropriate):

• Young People’s History Prize
• Digital History Prize.

Note: If entering both categories, only one nomination form needs to be completed. Fees are payable for each separate entry.

PREVIOUS WINNERS

A list of previous winning and shortlisted authors and works from the NSW Premier’s History Awards can be viewed at the State Library of NSW website: www.sl.nsw.gov.au/nsw-premiers-history-awards

PRIVACY NOTICE

Personal information collected by the State Library of NSW is treated in accordance with the State Library of NSW Privacy Management Plan and is governed by the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 and related regulations. Information provided on the application form will only be used for purposes related to the awards, which may include advertising or promoting the NSW Premier’s History Awards and award presentation events. Unless expressly requested, images of individuals present at award presentation events may be used for promotional purposes. Nominations for an award must only be submitted with the author’s consent and knowledge of the Privacy Notice. Please visit www.sl.nsw.gov.au/privacy/privacy-management-plan or email privacy@sl.nsw.gov.au for further information.

RIGHT TO INFORMATION

Under some circumstances, information pertaining to nominations and administration of the awards may be released, subject to consultation, in response to an application request made in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009
NOMINATION CHECKLIST

1. **Guidelines** – Read the 2018 NSW Premier’s History Awards guidelines, including the Privacy Notice
2. **Form** – Complete the online application form by Friday 6 April 2018, 5pm
3. **Send** – Send nominations by Friday 6 April 2018, 5pm

Each nomination must include:

- Four copies of the work
- Proof of government cardholder status, if claiming fee exemption
- Appropriate payment via cheque or money order, if payment was not made online via credit card

Entry fees may be paid via credit card (Visa or Mastercard) as part of the online nomination process. Alternatively, payment may be made cheque or money order, made payable to the State Library of NSW (ABN: 19 665 924 697), and included with your nomination to the address below. Please do not send cheques or money orders to the State Library’s Finance Department.

Postal address
2018 NSW Premier’s History Awards
NAME OF CATEGORY
State Library of NSW
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Courier address/ Hand delivery
2018 NSW Premier’s History Awards
NAME OF CATEGORY
State Library of NSW
Loading dock, Hospital Road
Sydney NSW 2000

ENQUIRIES AND NOMINATION FORMS

Nominations must be made via the online entry form on the SLNSW website

For more information contact:

Senior Project Officer, Awards
State Library of NSW
Tel: (02) 9273 1605 or (02) 9273 1582
Email: awards@sl.nsw.gov.au