

# The Mona Brand Award for Women Stage and Screen Writers

## 2018 GUIDELINES

The Mona Brand Award for Women Stage and Screen Writers was established in 2016 to celebrate Australian women's contribution to the screen and stage and to promote the interest of the public in their work. The Award also fosters new talent in the industry.

The Award/s are an initiative of the late Mona Alexis Fox née Brand (1915–2007), trailblazing Australian poet, author and playwright, who in her will established a fund to offer a prize in memory of her work. The Award/s are administered and presented biennially by the State Library of NSW.

Total prize money in 2018 is \$40,000, which is awarded over the following two categories:

- the Mona Brand Award (\$30,000), for a female writer for a body of outstanding work displaying broad array and which has been widely performed or screened to critical acclaim
- the Emerging Writer Award (\$10,000) for a female writer who is in the early stages of her career, for her first work professionally produced or screened or broadcast between 1 July 2016 and 30 June 2018.

**Entries close at 5pm, Friday 20 July 2018**

## Eligibility Criteria

- The Mona Brand Award/s are open to female writers of:
  - plays,
  - works of music drama,
  - screenplays of feature-length fiction films,
  - scripts of documentary films,
  - scripts of plays or documentaries for radio; or
  - for the scripts of television programs (fiction or non-fiction).
- Nominees for the 2018 Mona Brand Award (\$30,000) should have a body of outstanding work displaying broad array and which has been widely performed or screened to critical acclaim.

- The Emerging Writer Award (\$10,000) will be given to a female writer who is in the early stages of her career, for her first work professionally produced or screened or broadcast between 1 July 2016 and 30 June 2018. This includes at international or Australian film festivals. Additional works may have been produced or screened within this time frame.
- Nominations made for the Emerging Writer Award must be accompanied by a PDF sample of their first professionally produced or screened or broadcast work of between 10-12 pages only. This document must be uploaded online as part of the online nomination process. This document should also include a brief synopsis of the work, approximately one paragraph in length, in order to give context to the sample. The file should follow the naming convention of: NAME OF NOMINEE\_TITLE OF WORK.pdf
- All nominees must be living Australian citizens or persons holding permanent resident status.

## General

- Writers may be nominated by someone else, or they can nominate themselves. Nominations may be made by more than one person and joint nominations are encouraged.
- Writers who have been previously nominated for the Mona Brand Award and were unsuccessful are eligible to nominate again and are encouraged to do so. The judges do not wish previous nominees to be discouraged, as due to the nature of the Award there can only be one winner each year.
- Writers who were nominated for the Emerging Writer Award in 2016 are not eligible to enter the Emerging Writer Award in 2018, but may be eligible for the Mona Brand Award if their body of work and longevity in the industry is sufficient.
- Writers cannot be nominated for both Awards in the same year.
- It is essential that nominators obtain permission from the nominee and provide direct contact details for them.
- Nominations must be made online via the State Library of NSW [website](#)
- The State Library of NSW will acknowledge receipt of nominations by email.
- The Award/s will be judged by an independent judging committee whose decision will be final. No correspondence or discussion will be entered into concerning the decision. Unsuccessful nominees will not be personally advised.
- Only one writer will be selected as the winner of each Award but the judges may award commendations in either category.
- If a nominee should die between recommendation and presentation of the Award/s, the prize money may be paid to their estate. Any payment will be made at the discretion of the State Library of NSW.
- The winners will be announced and the Award/s presented at a function at the State Library of NSW on 23 October 2018. Details of the award function will be available in September 2018 on the Library's website [www.sl.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au).

- The State Library of NSW encourages winners of the Mona Brand Award/s to be available to undertake a small number of activities to promote these Award/s up to and including the next year the Award/s are presented. Activities may include media interviews (face to face or via electronic means), photographs or personal appearances at functions promoting these Award/s, author events at the State Library, and, where possible, events across the NSW public library network.
- There is no nomination fee for the Mona Brand Award/s.

## The Judging Process

- The judges will assess all nominations that meet the eligibility criteria.
- The Mona Brand Award/s recognise exceptional and evident talent and craft and potential for delivered creative impact in equal measure.

## 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 Mona Brand Award 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](http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/privacy/privacy-management-plan) or email [privacy@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:privacy@sl.nsw.gov.au) for further information.

## Nomination Checklist

1. Read the 2018 Mona Brand Award guidelines.
2. Complete the [online nomination form](#) by **5pm, Friday 20 July 2018**.
3. For nominations for the Emerging Writer Award, upload a PDF sample of the writer's first professionally produced or screened or broadcast work **of 10-12 pages only**.

## Enquiries

For more information visit the State Library [website](#)

Or contact:

Senior Project Officer, Awards, State Library of NSW

Tel: (02) 9273 1582 or (02) 9273 1605

[awards@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:awards@sl.nsw.gov.au)