

## GUIDELINES

The NSW Premier's History Awards ("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.

The total prize money in 2020 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.

**Entries close at 5pm, Wednesday 8 April 2020**

### Eligible works

To be eligible for consideration or shortlisting, and/or to be eligible to win or be awarded a prize in respect of the Awards, submitted works must:

- be first published, broadcast, screened or made publicly available between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020 and be commercially available within this period,
- 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).

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

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 must have contributed significant chapters themselves.

Self-published books may be nominated, but unpublished manuscripts will not be considered.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, podcast or other form of multimedia;
- in the case of TV or radio series, only one episode, per writer, per series can be considered.
- in the case of podcasts, an entire series of podcasts can be submitted if the total duration of the series is less than 90 minutes. However, if the total duration of the series is more than 90 minutes, the entrant must determine an episode or episodes to enter which fall within the 90-minute time period.
- if first publicly broadcast, screened or available (rather than produced) between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020, please note this includes screenings at film festivals both in Australia and overseas and on streaming services such as Netflix and ABCiview.
- must be submitted in a format that is accessible to the awards judges

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 following will **not** be eligible for consideration or shortlisting, and/or to be eligible to win or be awarded a prize in respect of the Awards:

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

## Eligible authors

- Writers, creators and illustrators must be living Australian citizens or persons holding permanent resident status.
- If the entry is co-authored, all writers, creators and illustrators must be Australian citizens or permanent residents.

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

## Submission process

- Submissions must be made via the online entry form on the SLNSW website [www.sl.nsw.gov.au/nsw-premiers-history-awards-nomination-form-and-guidelines](http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/nsw-premiers-history-awards-nomination-form-and-guidelines)  
Up to five entries can be made on the one online form; if you have more than five entries, you need to complete and submit more than one online form.
- Works may be submitted by an author/ creator/ illustrator or their agents, by publishers, professional theatre companies, film distributors, production companies, or broadcasting companies or corporations.
- If work is submitted on behalf of an author, permission must be obtained from the author and the author's direct contact details must be provided.
- The State Library of NSW will acknowledge receipt of submissions after the closing date.
- Once the online form has been completed, the entrant must send four copies of each nominated work to the State Library of NSW by the closing date. If an online credit card payment was not submitted, a cheque or money order must also be submitted with the books. In some cases additional copies of the work may be requested by judges. Entrants should note that books and other works submitted will not be returned. All reasonable care will be taken with works submitted, but no responsibility is accepted for loss or damage to books or other material.
- 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.
- Entries in ebook must be accompanied by four bound copies of the printed text for assessment purposes.
- 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, 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.

## Judging process

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.

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 winning titles. The shortlists, with the judges' comments, will be posted on the State Library of NSW website [www.sl.nsw.gov.au](http://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.

## **2020 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, podcast 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, podcast, 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.

### **Author's acknowledgement**

- The State Library of NSW, in its absolute discretion, reserves the right to conduct criminal record checks in respect of authors whose works are submitted for consideration in respect of the Awards.
- Award recipients must not engage (and must not have engaged) in behaviour that would be seen to bring the Award into disrepute.
- The State Library of NSW, in its absolute discretion, may 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. Upon receipt of such a demand, a prize winner must immediately return the prize money to the State Library of NSW.
- If an author, or authors, should die between recommendation and presentation of the Award, the prize money may, in the absolute discretion of the State Library of NSW, be paid to the estate of the author/s and/or the surviving author. Any payment will be made at the discretion of the State Library of NSW.

- The State Library of NSW encourages winning and shortlisted authors of the Awards to be available to undertake a small number of activities to promote the 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, events across the NSW Public Library Network.
- All intellectual property in the submitted work remains vested in the author(s). The author(s) grant(s) to the Library of NSW a royalty free, perpetual and irrevocable licence to use any part of the submitted work for publications and promotions relating to the Awards, any future awards and the State Library of NSW generally. This licence shall continue notwithstanding the conclusion of the Awards process and/or any author's decision to withdraw from the Awards process.
- In relation to the author(s) Work:
  - a) the author(s) will be attributed as the author of the Work when the State Library of New South Wales considers it reasonable and appropriate;
  - b) the State Library of New South Wales need not advise the author(s) of any intended use of the Work;
  - c) the author(s) have the right to give consent on behalf of its employees, consultants or any other collaborators, illustrators, copywriters, or any other person associated with the authorship and production of the Work; and
  - d) where requested, the author(s) must provide the State Library of New South Wales with copies of all relevant consents in a form required by the State Library of New South Wales.

## **Fees**

The entry fee is \$100 (including GST) for EACH nomination in EACH category, and credit card (Mastercard or Visa only) payments are made online as part of the nomination process.

If paying by cheque or money order, please make payable to the **State Library of New South Wales**.

The entry fee is not refundable in any circumstances.

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.

Entrants and authors acknowledge and agree that they participate in the Awards at their own cost and that the State Library of NSW will not be liable for any loss, damage, cost or expense of any kind suffered or incurred by entrants or authors in connection with the 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 Award, 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 email [privacy@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:privacy@sl.nsw.gov.au) or visit [www.sl.nsw.gov.au/privacy/privacy-management-plan](http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/privacy/privacy-management-plan) for further information.

## Nomination checklist

Before lodging your submission, please ensure that you have done the following:

1. Read and ensure that you understand and agree to these Guidelines, including the Privacy Notice contained in these Guidelines.
2. Complete the online application form: <https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/about-library/awards/nsw-premiers-history-awards-0>
3. Send nominations to the State Library of NSW by **5pm Wednesday 8 April 2020**
4. Each nomination must include:
  - 4 copies of each title
  - Appropriate payment if payment was not made online via credit card

### Postal address

2020 NSW Premier's History Awards  
Name of category  
State Library of NSW  
Macquarie Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

### Courier address/ Hand delivery

2020 NSW Premier's History Awards  
Name of category  
State Library of NSW  
Loading Dock, Hospital Road  
Sydney NSW 2000

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