

Media Release

Shortlists announced for 2019 NSW Premier's History Awards

31/7/2019

The State Library of NSW has today [Wednesday 31 July 2019] announced the shortlists for the 2019 NSW Premier's History Awards.

Eight judges considered 150 entries across the five prize categories.

2019 NSW Premier's History Awards shortlists (in alphabetical order by author):

Australian History Prize (\$15,000)

- *Taking Liberty: Indigenous Rights and Settler Self-Government in Colonial Australia, 1830-1890* by Ann Curthoys and Jessie Mitchell (Cambridge University Press)
- *The Bible in Australia: A Cultural History* by Meredith Lake (NewSouth Publishing)
- *Found in Translation: Many Meanings on a North Australian Mission* by Laura Rademaker (University of Hawaii Press)

General History Prize (\$15,000)

- *The Big Four: The Curious Past and Perilous Future of the Global Accounting Monopoly* by Stuart Kells and Ian D Gow (La Trobe University Press, an imprint of Black Inc.)
- *Progressive New World: How Settler Colonialism and Transpacific Exchange Shaped American Reform* by Marilyn Lake (Harvard University Press)
- *Sea People: The Puzzle of Polynesia* by Christina Thompson (HarperCollins Publishers)

NSW Regional and Community History Prize (\$15,000)

- *Callan Park, Hospital for the Insane* by Sarah Luke (Australian Scholarly Publishing)
- *Hunter Wine: A History* by Julie McIntyre and John Germov (NewSouth Publishing)
- *Cage of Ghosts* by Jon Rhodes (Darkwood)

Young People's History Prize (\$15,000)

- *Message in a Sock* by Kaye Baillie and Narelda Joy (MidnightSun Publishing)
- *The Upside-down History of Down Under* by Alison Lloyd and Terry Denton (Penguin Random House Australia)
- *I Am Sasha* by Anita Selzer (Penguin Random House Australia)

Digital History Prize (\$15,000)

- Guardian Australia's series *The Killing Times* by Lorena Allam, Nick Evershed, Carly Earl, Paul Daley, Andy Ball, Ciaran O'Mahony, Jeremy Nadel and the University of Newcastle Colonial Massacres Research Team
- *The Making of Mardi Gras 1979-81 and Mardi Gras Supernova 2002-03* by Catherine Freyne, Scott McKinnon and Mark Don (The History Listen, ABC RN)
- *Etched in Bone* by Martin Thomas and Béatrice Bijon (Red Lily Productions/ Ronin Films)

NSW PREMIER'S HISTORY AWARDS 2019

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Senior Judge, Dr Melissa Bellanta said, “This year's NSW Premier's History Awards recognise the diversity as well as the quality of historical research in Australia: whether at the level of community history, in the innovative use of digital and audio visual mediums, or in research that presents provocative or transformative perspectives on the national and global past.”

State Librarian John Vallance said: “The State Library of NSW is proud to administer these awards which promote high standards in historical research, writing and presentation.”

Background notes

- Works nominated for the 2019 NSW Premier's History Awards must have been first published, produced or made publicly available between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2019.
- Writers, creators and illustrators whose works are nominated must be living Australian citizens or hold permanent resident status.
- The awards are judged 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 NSW Premier's History Awards were first presented in 1997 to honour distinguished achievement in history.

Winners' announcement

The winners of the 2019 Awards will be announced at the State Library of NSW as part of the launch of NSW History Week on Friday 30 August 2019. Members of the public are welcome to attend the event. Tickets: \$50/45 each. Bookings are essential: <http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/pha2019>

More information

The NSW Premier's History Awards are presented by the NSW Government and administered by the State Library of NSW in association with Create NSW, with support from the History Council of NSW. For more information about the awards, please contact: Sara Fishwick, Senior Project Officer, Awards, State Library of NSW (02) 9273 1582 or awards@sl.nsw.gov.au

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