

2016

NSW PREMIER'S
HISTORY AWARDS

P&D 4/19/17/2016

Media release



Shortlists announced for 2016 NSW Premier's History Awards

16/8/2016

The Premier of NSW, the Hon Mike Baird MP today [Tuesday 16 August 2016] announced the shortlist for the 2016 NSW Premier's History Awards.

Seven judges considered 172 entries across the five prize categories.

The Premier commented that "these Awards celebrate the achievements of our historians and recognise and promote excellence in historical research, writing and presentation."

"The shortlisted works share insights into our past and contribute to a deeper understanding of the present."

2016 NSW Premier's History Awards shortlist (in alphabetical order)

- Australian History Prize (\$15,000)
The Eighties: The Decade that Transformed Australia, **Frank Bongiorno** (Black Inc.)
- *Just Relations: The Story of Mary Bennett's Crusade for Aboriginal Rights*, **Alison Holland** (UWA Publishing)
- *Australia's Boldest Experiment: War and Reconstruction in the 1940s*, **Stuart Macintyre** (NewSouth Publishing)

General History Prize (\$15,000)

- *Holy Legionary Youth: Fascist Activism in Interwar Romania*, **Roland Clark** (Cornell University Press)
- *Illicit Love: Interracial Sex and Marriage in the United States and Australia*, **Ann McGrath** (University of Nebraska Press)
- *Prince of Darkness: The Untold Story of Jeremiah G. Hamilton, Wall Street's First Black Millionaire*, **Shane White** (St Martin's Press)

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

- *Fractured Families: Life on the Margins in Colonial New South Wales*, **Tanya Evans** (NewSouth Publishing)
- *Lord Wolseley Hotel A Social History of a Very Small Pub*, **Shirley Fitzgerald** (Lord Wolseley Hotel)
- *Unnamed Desires: A Sydney Lesbian History*, **Rebecca Jennings** (Monash University Publishing)

2016

NSW PREMIER'S HISTORY AWARDS

P&D 4/19/17/2016

Media release



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

- *Cyclone*, **Jackie French and Bruce Whatley** (Scholastic Press for Scholastic Australia)
- *Freedom Ride*, **Sue Lawson** (Black Dog Books, an imprint of Walker Books Australia)
- *One Thousand Hills*, **James Roy and Noël Zihabamwe** (Omnibus Books for Scholastic Australia)

Multimedia History Prize (\$15,000)

- *The Waler: Australia's Great War Horse*, **Marian Bartsch** (Mago Films)
- *The Crater*, **David Bradbury** (Spirited Films Pty Ltd)
- *Afghanistan: Inside Australia's War*, **Victoria Midwinter Pitt and Alan Erson** (Essential Media & Entertainment)

Senior judge Professor Chris Hilliard said "the wealth of entries for the NSW Premier's History Awards this year testify to the vitality of history in Australia. The sheer range as well as the quality is impressive. The judges read books that brought NSW local history to life, and they read histories with a global canvas. Familiar stories were told from new perspectives, and imaginative researchers turned up fascinating new discoveries."

"The State Library of NSW is the home of Australian history and we are delighted to administer these awards which celebrate the vital works of our historians. On behalf of the Library I congratulate this year's shortlisted authors on their achievements," said Alex Byrne, NSW State Librarian & Chief Executive.

Background notes

- Works nominated for the 2016 NSW Premier's History Awards must have been first published, produced or made publicly available between 1 April 2015 and 31 March 2016.
- 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 2016 Awards will be announced at the State Library of NSW as part of the launch NSW History Week on Friday 2 September 2016. Members of the public are welcome to attend the event. Tickets: \$50/45 each.

Bookings are essential: rsvp@sl.nsw.gov.au, www4.sl.nsw.gov.au/events/PHA

2016

NSW PREMIER'S
HISTORY AWARDS

P&D 4/19/17/2016

Media release



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 Arts NSW, with support from the History Council of NSW.

For more information please contact: Mandy Kretzschmar, Senior Project Officer, Awards State Library of NSW (02) 9273 1605 or mandy.kretzschmar@sl.nsw.gov.au

MEDIA CONTACT:

Vanessa Bond, Media & Communications Manager, State Library of NSW
(02) 9273 1566, 0411 259 898, vanessa.bond@sl.nsw.gov.au