

19 March 2018

State Library fellows dominate Stella Prize shortlist

Half the writers shortlisted for the national Stella Prize have won fellowships through the State Library of Queensland's writing programs.

Claire G. Coleman, black&write! Fellowship winner, **Mirandi Riwoe**, current Queensland Writers Fellowship winner and **Krissy Kneen**, past Queensland Writers Fellowship winner, have all been shortlisted for the Australian women's literary award which will be announced next month.

The black&write! and Queensland Writers Fellowships support home-grown writers and help share their work with an Australian and global readership.

The three annual **Queensland Writers Fellowships**, worth \$15,000 each, provide support for leading Queensland writers to develop a writing project towards publication over a 12-month period.

The Queensland Writers Fellowships are funded by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland and State Library of Queensland, and supported by Queensland Writers Centre.

The **black&write! Fellowships** are part of a national program to foster a significant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander writing community.

The State Library project is the first of its kind in Australia and is designed to recruit, train, and mentor Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander editors to develop Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-authored manuscripts.

black&write! is supported by the Australian Government, through the Australia Council for the Arts, and Hachette Australia.

Quotes from Arts Minister Leanne Enoch:

"I am delighted to see three State Library of Queensland fellowship winners on the Stella shortlist.

"The Queensland Government is a proud supporter of the state's literary community, and continues to provide aspiring writers with opportunities to develop their manuscripts and writing projects."

Quotes from State Librarian and CEO Vicki McDonald:

"The State Library congratulates all the Stella shortlisted writers. We are especially proud of State Library fellowships winners Claire, Mirandi and Krissy for their Stella shortlisting.

"This shortlisting demonstrates the value and importance of our fellowship programs and the calibre of the writers who apply for them.

"We would like to thank all our supporters and sponsors who help promote writing and creativity in Queensland."

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