

STATE LIBRARY OF QUEENSLAND

Queensland  
**Literary Awards**

2021

**GUIDELINES:  
DEVELOPMENT  
AWARDS**



# Queensland Literary Awards 2021

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## The Queensland Literary Awards

The Queensland Literary Awards showcase outstanding authors from across Australia, celebrating emerging and established authors across a range of genres. State Library of Queensland is proud to manage the Awards in collaboration with sponsors, the literary community, and industry partners.

The Queensland Literary Awards are supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland and State Library of Queensland, sponsors, grants and philanthropic donations through the Queensland Library Foundation.

### Key Dates

1 March	Nominations open for all award categories
30 April	Nominations close
August	Shortlist announcements
September	Winners announced at the awards ceremony

### Awards and prizes

- Queensland Writers Fellowships – \$19,500
- David Unaipon Award for an Emerging Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Writer – \$15,000
- Glendower Award for an Emerging Queensland Writer – \$15,000
- Queensland Premier’s Young Publishers and Writers Awards – \$12,500

### Author requirements for all award categories

To be eligible, writers **must** be:

- Australian citizens or permanent residents of Australia (for a minimum period of three years prior to the closing date for nominations)
- at least 18 years of age, or provide written consent from a parent or guardian to nominate
- living at the date of nomination.

### Other award information

- There is no nomination fee for these awards.
- Nominations must be submitted in line with the requirements outlined in the 'How to submit your nomination' section. This includes an online form, and the materials outlined in the category-specific criteria.

## QUEENSLAND WRITERS FELLOWSHIPS

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**Prize: three Fellowships of \$15,000, plus career development support to the value of \$4,500 each**

Awarded to established Queensland authors to advance a writing project over a 12-month period.

Three (3) Fellowships will be awarded in 2021.

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

### Additional author requirements for this category

To be eligible, nominated authors must:

- have lived in Queensland for at least the past three (3) years or be a Queensland-born writer who lives elsewhere and can demonstrate continuing strong ties with the state.
- be committed to developing an individual writing project toward publication or other significant outcome over 12 months. Collaborative projects/works are not eligible, except illustrated children's books.
- Your application must include a completed application form that includes a proposal and project plan that clearly identifies the key project outcomes across the full 12-month Fellowship (January – December 2021) and how you will achieve them. This form must be attached to your online nomination form.

### Publication history

Eligible applicants must be able to demonstrate a track record of work as a developing or established author with a strong publication history. Applicants must be able to demonstrate **at least one or a combination** of the following publication outcomes to be eligible:

- One (1) full-length published book for adults, young adults or children.
- One (1) self-published work, which is formally published in book form (print) with an ISBN or published electronically with an ISBN.
- Seven (7) short works of fiction or literary non-fiction (minimum 1,000 words each) published in professional literary journals, edited anthologies, major newspapers, or national magazines.
- 15 poems published in professional literary journals, edited anthologies, major newspapers, or national magazines.
- A full-length performance script (theatre or film) which has premiered in Australia.

## Other information

- Projects that form part of formal tertiary studies are not eligible for these Fellowships.
- Projects that have already been accepted (or commissioned – for example, in the case of a series of books) by a publisher are not eligible for these Fellowships.
- Original materials should not be submitted as part of your application, as they cannot be returned to applicants following the judging process.

## Nomination requirements

Your submission for the Queensland Writers Fellowships must include a completed online nomination form with the following documents attached:

- a completed 2021 Queensland Writers Fellowships Application Form
- a CV including your publication history – max. two (2) pages
- a sample of your published work – max. 10 pages
- up to three (3) letters of support or testimonials from publishers, journals, or industry experts in support of your proposed project – please combine into a single file for upload
- a sample of the proposed writing project to show the tone and style of the work (max. six (6) pages); judges understand this is likely to be at draft stage
- proof of Queensland residency or birth.

Files should be no bigger than 3 MB. Please contact State Library of Queensland if your file is more than 3 MB.

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

- **Quality** and uniqueness of the proposed project.
- **Viability** of the proposed project plan and likelihood of achieving proposed outcomes.
- **Impact** of the proposed Fellowship on the applicant's writing career.

It is important to be as accurate as possible with all information provided in your application. If you are awarded a Fellowship your application will form part of your funding agreement, and you will be responsible for completing your project as described.

## DAVID UNAIPON AWARD FOR AN EMERGING ABORIGINAL AND/OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER WRITER

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### **Prize: \$15,000, plus manuscript development and publication with UQP**

Awarded for an outstanding unpublished manuscript by an emerging Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander writer.

This award is open to all unpublished Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander writers – those who are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent, who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, and who are accepted as such by the communities in which they live or have lived or worked.

The prize includes \$15,000 plus manuscript development and publication with University of Queensland Press.

### **Additional author requirements for this category**

- The nominated writer must be an Aboriginal person and/or Torres Strait Islander.
- Entries must include a copy of a Confirmation of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Descent/Letter of Confirmation with a common seal from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander incorporated community organisation OR a Confirmation of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Descent statutory declaration form.
- Please contact State Library of Queensland on 07 3840 7424 or via email at [gla@slq.qld.gov.au](mailto:gla@slq.qld.gov.au) if you have any questions about this requirement.
- Co-authored manuscripts are eligible in this category. However, all authors must comply with all eligibility criteria.

### **Manuscript requirements**

- Manuscripts can be in any literary category including novels, collections of short stories, collections of poems, works for children, biographies, autobiographies and memoirs, and general non-fiction, excluding straight exegeses and academic monographs.
- Entries of full-length submissions are recommended (typically between 40,000 and 100,000 words) except for poetry collections and children's books, which can be of any length.
- Eligible manuscripts may be in English, Aboriginal English, an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language, or a combination of these, including a bilingual text.

### **How to format your manuscript**

Please prepare your nomination using the below format.

- Include a brief cover letter to the judges that details: the manuscript title, author's name and publication history/short biography, author's connection to the story (where relevant), word count, and genre information. The cover page is your opportunity to introduce yourself to the judging panel – max. 200 words.

- Prepare a synopsis or summary of the manuscript – max. 500 words
- Use a plain font such as Times New Roman or Arial, 12-point font size. Use double line spacing with a three-centimetre page margin on A4 size paper.
- Please number the pages and include the title of the manuscript on each page.
- If submitting illustrations, please do not send originals.
- Any physical documents and materials submitted for judging will not be returned.
- If submitting hard copies, please submit five (5) **unbound** copies of the manuscript. Pages should be kept together with a bulldog clip.

### Other award information

- There is no nomination fee for this award.
- Nominations must be submitted in line with the requirements outlined in the 'How to submit your nomination' section. This includes an online form, and the materials outlined in the category-specific criteria.
- Any manuscripts submitted for judging will not be returned.
- The copyright of any material submitted in the unpublished manuscript award categories remains with the author.
- The prize for the unpublished manuscript awards includes \$15,000 prize and the offer of a publishing contract with UQP.
- Please note the following important information about this prize:
  - UQP will offer publishing rights to the **winning author** for the work to be published. If the author accepts the offer, UQP will have exclusive worldwide publishing rights to the winning manuscript subject to mutually agreed terms and conditions.
  - UQP will develop and publish the winning manuscript subject to normal publishing terms and conditions.
  - It is recommended that the winning author/s seek their own legal or professional advice prior to entering into any publishing agreement.
  - If your manuscript is **shortlisted**, you grant UQP first right of refusal to offer to publish the work for an exclusive period of 12 weeks after the shortlist announcement. Your shortlisted manuscript must not be submitted elsewhere during this 12-week period. 'First right of refusal' does not guarantee an offer of publication will be made.
  - It is recommended that all shortlisted authors seek their own legal or professional advice prior to entering into any publishing agreement.

## GLENDOWER AWARD FOR AN EMERGING QUEENSLAND WRITER

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### Prize: \$15,000, plus manuscript development and publication with UQP

Awarded for an outstanding unpublished manuscript by an emerging Queensland writer.

The prize includes \$15,000 plus manuscript development and publication with University of Queensland Press.

*This award is supported by Jenny Summerson through the Queensland Library Foundation.*

### Additional author requirements for this category

To be eligible, the nominated writer must be:

- a Queensland resident, for at least three (3) years prior to the nomination (proof of residency must be submitted with the nomination)
- an Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia, for a minimum period of three (3) years prior to the closing date for nominations
- at least 18 years of age or provide written consent from a parent or guardian to nominate
- living at the date of nomination
- an emerging writer that has not had a commercial publication of any significant written work (book, published script/play, collection of poetry or short stories) by a trade publisher or other conventional publisher. The emerging writer has also not previously self-published a full-length work with an ISBN.
- Authors who have previously published individual short stories, poems, articles or essays in magazines, journals, anthologies or newspapers in print or online **are eligible** to enter.
- Unpublished authors must not have an existing binding publishing contract or be in current contractual negotiations.

### Manuscript requirements

Manuscripts in this category can be: novels, collections of short stories, fiction for children (9+) and young adults, biographies, autobiographies and memoirs, and general non-fiction, excluding straight exegeses and academic monographs.

- Unpublished poetry collections are **not** eligible for this award. Please consider entering the *Thomas Shapcott Poetry Prize* through the Queensland Poetry Festival if you have an unpublished poetry collection.
- Entries should be between 40,000 and 100,000 words, with exceptions for fiction for children, which can be of any length.



The submitted manuscript must be:

- an original work. Shortlisted entrants may be required to sign a statutory declaration form stating that the work is entirely their own and that they have never been published or signed a publishing contract
- unpublished – this is understood to mean that the manuscript cannot have been previously published, or self-published, with an ISBN in print or electronic form on a commercial basis (publication of up to 10 per cent of the manuscript will be accepted).
- The manuscript must not be currently entered in other writing competitions, or under submission to a publisher, or subject to contractual negotiations.
- Manuscripts previously nominated in this category are eligible for re-nomination.

### **How to format your manuscript**

Please prepare your nomination using the below format:

- Include a brief cover letter to the judges that details: the manuscript title, author's name and publication history/short biography, author's connection to the story (where relevant), word count, and genre information. The cover page is your opportunity to introduce yourself to the judging panel – max. 200 words
- Prepare a synopsis or summary of the manuscript – max. 500 words.
- Use a plain font such as Times New Roman or Arial, 12-point font size. Use double line spacing with a three-centimetre page margin on A4 size paper.
- Please number the pages and include the title of the manuscript on each page.
- If submitting illustrations, please do not send originals.
- Any physical documents and materials submitted for judging will not be returned.
- If submitting hard copies, please submit five (5) **unbound** manuscripts. Pages should be kept together with a bulldog clip.

### **Other award information**

- There is no nomination fee for this award.
- Nominations must be submitted in line with the requirements outlined in the 'How to submit your nomination' section. This includes an online form, and the materials outlined in the category-specific criteria.
- Any manuscripts submitted for judging will not be returned.
- The copyright of any material submitted in the unpublished manuscript award categories remains with the author.
- The prize for the unpublished manuscript awards includes a \$15,000 prize and the offer of a publishing contract with UQP.

- Please note the following important information about this prize:
  - UQP will offer publishing rights to the **winning author** for the work to be published. If the author accepts the offer, UQP will have exclusive worldwide publishing rights to the winning manuscript subject to mutually agreed terms and conditions.
  - UQP will develop and publish the winning manuscript subject to normal publishing terms and conditions.
  - It is recommended that the winning author/s seek their own legal or professional advice prior to entering into any publishing agreement.
  - If your manuscript is **shortlisted**, you grant UQP first right of refusal to offer to publish the work for an exclusive period of 12 weeks after the shortlist announcement. Your shortlisted manuscript must not be submitted elsewhere during this 12-week period. 'First right of refusal' does not guarantee an offer of publication will be made.
  - It is recommended that all shortlisted authors seek their own legal or professional advice prior to entering into any publishing agreement.

## QUEENSLAND PREMIER'S YOUNG PUBLISHERS AND WRITERS AWARDS

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**Prize: two awards of \$10,000, plus career development support to the value of \$2,500 each**

Awarded to two (2) outstanding Queensland writers up to 30 years of age.

These awards are open to professional Queensland-based writers and publishers up to 30 years of age with a steady publishing history. Two (2) winners will be awarded in this category, each receiving a prize of \$10,000 plus career development support to the value of \$2,500 each.

*This award is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.*

### **Additional author requirements for this category**

To be eligible, nominated writers must be:

- up to 30 years of age at the closing date of 30 April 2021.
- For writers: all work submitted for this award must be original works, solely written by the nominee. Co-authored works are **not** eligible in this category.
- Only individuals are eligible to enter and receive these awards.
- For publishers: while examples of produced works submitted for this award may have been co-produced, only individuals may receive an award, not partnerships, collectives, groups or associations. Awards may not be shared.
- Writers currently funded through the Queensland Writers Fellowship program are **not** eligible for these awards.

### **Publication history**

Eligible nominees must be able to demonstrate a track record of work as a writer or publisher, including a publication history.

Nominees must be able to demonstrate **at least one (1) or a combination** of the following publication outcomes to be eligible.

For writers

- one (1) full-length published book (including electronic or online publications with an ISBN)
- five (5) short works of fiction or non-fiction (minimum 100 words each) published in professional literary journals, edited anthologies, major newspapers or national magazines (print and online accepted)
- 10 poems published in professional literary journals, edited anthologies, major newspapers or national magazines (print and online accepted)
- a blog which has existed for at least two (2) years, with evidence of a wide following and regular (at least monthly) new content
- a full-length performance script (theatre or film) which has premiered in Australia.

For publishers/cultural producers

- a selection of up to five (5) examples of publishing or cultural production (in print, online or combination of media) demonstrating a commitment to creating publication or presentation avenues for Queensland literature
- examples may include, but are not limited to, small press publications, electronic journals, zines, podcast series, live literature performances.

#### **Other award information**

- Writing can be in any literary category including novels, short stories and/or poems, works for children, biographies and memoirs, plays and scripts, or other non-fiction works including journalism.
- Comics and graphic novels are eligible in this category if there is sufficient text and writing included that it is an integral part of the work.
- Questions of eligibility will be resolved by State Library of Queensland in consultation with the judging panel where appropriate.
- The documents and materials submitted for judging will not be returned.

#### **Nomination requirements**

Your submission for the Queensland Premier's Young Publishers and Writers Awards must include:

- a one-page cover letter outlining your eligibility for this award
- a detailed CV with full publication history – max. four (4) pages
- Writers: a portfolio of writing – this should include up to six (6) pieces of writing, including at least one (1) item published in the previous 12 months
- Publishers: a portfolio of up to five (5) publications or documented productions, including at least one (1) item produced in the previous 12 months.

Files should be no bigger than 3 MB. Please contact State Library of Queensland if your file is more than 3 MB.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

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- Complete nominations must be received no later than 5pm AEST on 30 April 2021. Late entries will not be accepted.
- Copies of works submitted as part of a nomination will not be returned.
- Works may be submitted by authors, publishers, literary agents or interested third parties. People or organisations nominating works on behalf of an author are responsible for ensuring and demonstrating, if requested, that the author's consent has been obtained prior to the nomination.
- The person listed as the 'nominator' will be the contact person for all information relating to that nomination.
- The nominator consents for the author's personal information to be used and disclosed where appropriate for editorial, advertising, or promotional purposes in conjunction with the 2021 Queensland Literary Awards and the ongoing Queensland Literary Awards program. The State Library of Queensland will adhere to the privacy principles in the Information Privacy Act 2009 (see Privacy notice below).
- While all reasonable care will be taken, no responsibility is accepted by State Library of Queensland for loss or damage to submitted books or manuscripts.
- State Library of Queensland reserves the right to change the conditions of nomination, cancel, or vary the awards process at any time, whether before, on, or after the closing date.
- The conduct of inviting nominations does not give rise to any legal or equitable relationship.
- In all matters relating to the conditions of nomination and judging process, the decisions of the judges and State Library of Queensland are final, and no correspondence will be entered into.
- Breach of conditions of nomination will render a nomination invalid.
- No person will be entitled to claim compensation for loss from State Library of Queensland for any matter in connection with the Queensland Literary Awards, including, but not limited to, a failure by State Library of Queensland to comply with the conditions of nomination.
- Publishers may print 'Queensland Literary Awards Finalist' or 'Queensland Literary Awards Winner' on subsequent printings of shortlisted and winning works. A digital sticker will be provided to nominators of winning and shortlisted entries.
- State Library of Queensland expects that the winners and finalists of the Queensland Literary Awards will assist in publicly promoting Australian literature and the Queensland Literary Awards program. This may include contributing to the State Library's blogs, public engagements and special events at the time of, and in the year following, being awarded.
- Award winners and finalists should be prepared to participate in a small number of local and national media opportunities at the time of, and in the year following, being awarded.
- For the published book award categories, in the case of the prize being awarded to a recently deceased author, the prize money goes to the rights holder of the literary estate or, in cases where this is not able to be determined, to the publisher, to be distributed to the rights holder once they are identified (for example, as with royalty payments).

## HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION

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Complete the online nomination form for your chosen category available at [slq.qld.gov.au/qla](http://slq.qld.gov.au/qla)

An email acknowledgement will be sent to you from State Library of Queensland once all parts of your nomination have been received. Please note it may take up to two (2) weeks for your nomination to be processed from the date it is received.

### Queensland Writers Fellowships

Please download the 2021 Queensland Writers Fellowship Application Form before you apply.

Once complete, upload the completed Application Form, along with the required support materials to your online nomination form:

- a CV including your publication history – max. two (2) pages
- a sample of your published work – max. 10 pages.
- up to three (3) letters of support or testimonials from publishers, journals, or industry experts in support of your proposed project – please combine into a single file for upload
- a sample of the proposed writing project to show the tone and style of the work (max. six (6) pages); judges understand this is likely to be at draft stage.
- proof of Queensland residency or birth.

If you are unable to upload your application or support materials, please complete the online form and post, courier or hand-deliver five (5) printed copies of your complete application and support materials to the State Library address below.

### David Unaipon Award for an Emerging Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Writer and Glendower Award for an Emerging Queensland Writer

Please upload all the documents required as directed by the online nomination form.

If you are unable to upload your manuscript, please complete the online nomination form and post, courier or hand-deliver **five unbound printed copies** of your complete manuscript to the State Library address below.

### Queensland Premier's Young Publishers and Writers Award

Please upload these documents with the online nomination form

- a one-page cover letter outlining your eligibility for this award
- a detailed CV with full publication history – max. four (4) pages
- Writers: a portfolio of writing – this should include up to six (6) pieces of writing, including at least one (1) item published in the previous 12 months
- Publishers: a portfolio of up to five (5) publications or documented productions, including at least one (1) item produced in the previous 12 months.

## INFORMATION AND ENQUIRIES

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If you have any questions, please contact State Library of Queensland.

Phone: 07 3840 7424

Email: [qla@slq.qld.gov.au](mailto:qla@slq.qld.gov.au)

Web: [www.slq.qld.gov.au/qla](http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/qla)

### Postal address

Attn: Queensland Literary Awards  
State Library of Queensland  
PO Box 3488  
SOUTH BRISBANE QLD 4101

### Courier address

Attn: Queensland Literary Awards  
State Library of Queensland  
Loading Dock, Stanley Place  
SOUTH BRISBANE QLD 4101

### Privacy notice

State Library of Queensland collects the minimum personal information necessary to process a nomination and administer the Queensland Literary Awards. We will only use the personal information from the online application form for the purpose for which it has been provided and for directly related purposes such as contacting the applicant, assessing the merits of the nomination and to promote shortlisted and winning nominations. We will not disclose the personal information without the consent of the individual to whom the personal information relates, except for purposes directly related to administering this award program.

The State Library of Queensland is subject to privacy legislation which applies to the Queensland public sector — the Information Privacy Act 2009. The Information Privacy Act contains a number of privacy principles that set out how agencies must handle personal information.

Further information on the Queensland Government's information privacy scheme can be accessed through the Office of the Information Commissioner.