



GUIDELINES

Closing Date: Wednesday 3 April 2024

The NSW Premier’s History Awards (“the **Awards**”) were first presented in 1997 to honour distinguished achievement in history by Australian citizens and permanent residents. The Awards acknowledge the contribution of historical research to our culture and communities, and to society at large.

Past winners have included Alan Atkinson, Joan Beaumont, Stuart Macintyre, Ken Inglis, Inga Clendinnen, Bruce Scates, Rachel Perkins, Mark McKenna, Warwick Thornton, Sean Scalmer, Ann McGrath, Nadia Wheatley 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 and The Anzac Memorial Trustees for their establishment and sponsorship of The Anzac Memorial Trustees’ Military History Prize.

The total prize money in 2024 is **\$85,000**.

Entries 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
- The Anzac Memorial Trustees’ Military History Prize

Eligible Works

To be eligible for consideration or shortlisting, and/or to be eligible to win or be awarded a prize, submitted works must:

- be first published, broadcast, screened or made publicly available between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024 and be commercially available within this period; and
- 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 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. Self-published books may be nominated, but unpublished manuscripts will not be considered.

Collections of essays can be nominated if they contain predominantly new work.

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 2023 and 31 March 2024, please note this includes screenings at film festivals both in Australia and overseas and on streaming services such as Netflix and ABC iView; and
- must be submitted in a format that is freely accessible to the awards judges. For example, judges should not be required to sign up to a streaming service in order to view the submission. All links should be tested to ensure they are accessible at the time of submission and will continue to be for the duration of the judging period up to and including August 2024.

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; and
- 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;
- Electronic versions of previously published books. Similarly, published versions of books originally released electronically before the current eligibility period.
- Works that are compilations of records or historical data and that offer neither interpretation nor analysis.
- Books compiled by an editor and consisting principally of contributions from several writers.

Eligible Entrants

- Writers, creators and illustrators must be living Australian citizens or persons holding permanent resident status.
Please note: New Zealand citizens or persons holding permanent resident status in New Zealand are also permitted to enter ‘The Anzac Memorial Trustees’ Military History Prize, but no other categories.
- 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.

2024 Prize Categories

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.

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.

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 understanding of any aspect of the history of New South Wales, including community, regional, urban, institutional or local histories. Books which do not relate to NSW are ineligible for this prize.

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 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.

The Anzac Memorial Trustees’ Military History Prize (\$10,000) for a work of non-fiction published as a book or e-book, publicly released or made available as a broadcast film, television or radio program, DVD,

podcast, website or application for mobile/handheld devices, on the involvement of Australians in wars, campaigns, battles and/or peacekeeping operations represented in The Anzac Memorial’s [Hall of Service](#). In the spirit of Anzac, the Prize is open to citizens and permanent residents of Australia and New Zealand. Further details about the intent and eligibility criteria of the Prize can be found on the [Anzac Memorial’s website](#).

General category information

Most works can only be entered into one category, with the following exceptions:

- a book that fulfils both the criteria for The Australian History Prize AND The New South Wales Community and Regional History Prize can be entered into both categories.
- a non-print media work that fulfils both the criteria for The Digital History Prize AND The Young People’s History Prize can be entered into both categories.
- entries relating to Australian military history may be entered solely for The Anzac Memorial Trustees Military History Prize but MAY ALSO be entered for additional categories provided the work meets the eligibility criteria for each additional category.

Note: If entering more than one category, only one nomination form needs to be completed. Fees are payable for each separate category (with a reduced fee of \$50 for each additional category).

While works can be entered for multiple categories, they can only win in one category.

Entering the Awards

Submissions must be made via the online entry form via the SLNSW website <https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/pha>

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 a 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.

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 (Note: If more than one category is entered an additional 3 copies for each category entered must be sent).

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.

Entries in ebook form 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.

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.

Fees

There is an early-bird entry fee of \$75 (including GST) for each work submitted by 7 March 2024 and \$100 (including GST) for entries submitted after that date and up to the closure date on 3 April 2024.

A reduced entry fee of \$50 (including GST) is applicable if a work is entered into a second category.

Credit card payments are made online as part of the nomination process. If an online credit card payment was not submitted, payment can be made via direct debit. Please email awards@sl.nsw.gov.au to arrange this.

The entry fee is not refundable.

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. concession, healthcare cards)
- Australian Government Department of Veterans Affairs cardholders

Books published by members of The Small Press Network are also exempt from the entry fee.

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.

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.

Judging Process

The Awards will be assessed by independent panels of scholars and historians who have been appointed by the Premier or the Minister for the Arts or their delegates, on the recommendation of the State Librarian. The judges for The Anzac Memorial Trustees’ Military History Prize are recommended The Anzac Memorial Board of Trustees and are appointed by the Office for Veterans Affairs.

Judging panels will be constituted with a minimum of three members.

Each panel will assess all nominated works in its 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. Panels may nominate additional entries, usually a maximum of three, for commendation.

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 further advice on the award.

The committee’s final recommendations will be submitted to the Premier and/or Minister for the Arts, or the Anzac Memorial Trustees, as appropriate. Shortlists will be announced 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/awards. 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.

Shortlisted and winning entrant’s conditions

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 that they 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:

- the State Library of New South Wales need not advise the author(s) of any intended use of the Work;
- 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
- 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.

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.

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 or visit www.sl.nsw.gov.au/privacy/privacy-management-plan for further information.

Right to Information

Under some circumstances, information pertaining to entries and administration of the awards may be released, subject to consultation, in response to an application request made in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.

Entry 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.
2. Complete the online application form: www.sl.nsw.gov.au/pha including the payment.
3. Send **4 copies of each book entered** (and x3 additional copies of each book per additional category) to be received no later than **3 April 2024** to:

Postal address

2024 NSW Premier’s History Awards
Name of category
State Library of NSW
1 Shakespeare Place
Sydney NSW 2000

Courier address/ Hand delivery

2024 NSW Premier’s History Awards
Name of category
State Library of NSW
Loading Dock, Hospital Road
Sydney NSW 2000

Enquiries

Please direct enquiries or requests for further information to:

Awards, State Library of NSW
Call: (02) 9273 1767, or alternatively (02) 9273 1770
Email: awards@sl.nsw.gov.au

For information on The Anzac Memorial Trustees’ Military History Prize please direct enquiries to:

Grace McKay
Call: (02) 8688 0675
Email: Grace.McKay@veterans.nsw.gov.au