

2022 Picture Book Writing Competition

writersunleashed.com.au

1st prize

\$500

2nd prize

\$200

3rd prize

\$100

Plus a certificate to all shortlisted
and winning entries

Emerging Writer Mentorship

*Highest place entry by an emerging
writer within the shortlist will win a
Mentorship with Clare Hallifax,
Walker Books Australia*

Payment Entry Fee: \$20

Important Dates

Opens: 14 February

Closes: 19 April

Shortlist Announced: 1 August

Winners Announced: 3 September

Conditions of Entry

- Original picture book manuscripts only. Must not have been accepted for publication or won a prize in any other competition at the time of comp closure.
- The entry may be entered in more than one competition, however, it must be withdrawn if the writer is advised the entry has been successful or won a prize elsewhere.
- 500 word limit, excluding the identified entry title, word count and page numbers.
- No illustrations to be included. Any illustration notes (where included) will count towards the word count.
- Open theme.
- Multiple entries are acceptable, however must be submitted separately.
- Entry fee of \$20 per entry.
- Manuscripts are to be submitted (including payment of entry fees) via the Writers Unleashed website. Manuscripts submitted through other means (e.g. via email) will not be accepted.

Submission Guidelines

- Entries must be in English and typed, double spaced, 12 point, and Times New Roman font.
- The header of each page must contain the title, word count and page number.
- Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) or PDF (.pdf) documents only.
- Document name to be the same as the entry title (e.g. 'YourTitle.doc').
- Entries must be submitted via the Writers Unleashed website including details of the manuscript title, word count, author's name, address, phone number and email, and whether you are entering as an emerging writer.
- Entrant's name should NOT appear anywhere in the manuscript or document title.

Judging & Notification

- Shortlisted Entrants will be notified by email on 1 August 2022.
- Shortlist will be published on the Writers Unleashed website, Pass It On and Buzz Words from 1 August 2022.
- Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at the Writers Unleashed Festival in September 2022.

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Judging & Notification (Cont'd)

- First, second and third placed entries will receive cash prizes of \$500, \$200 and \$100 respectively.
- In addition, the highest placed entry by an emerging writer within the shortlist will receive a mentorship with Clare Hallifax, Walker Books Australia comprising written feedback on two unpublished manuscripts by the writer (either the competition entry and one other OR two separate manuscripts). Clare will provide initial feedback, a follow-up meeting or phone call to discuss revisions.
- If the highest placed entry by an emerging writer is judged as one of the top three entries of the competition, the emerging writer mentorship will be awarded in addition to the relevant cash prize for first, second or third place.
- Where the shortlist does not include any entries by emerging writers, the emerging writer mentorship will not be awarded in that year.
- For the purposes of this competition, an emerging writer is defined as a writer who has not had any picture books published by a traditional publisher. Writers who have had their picture book manuscript self-published, or published in an anthology, or published via hybrid publishing can enter as an emerging writer. Writers who are traditionally published in a separate genre (e.g. other Kid or Adult Lit that is not a picture book) are still able to enter under this category. If you wish to be considered under the emerging writer category, please tick this category when submitting your entry.
- Prize winners unable to attend the Festival will receive their cash prizes electronically.
- Members of the Fellowship of Australian Writers (Sutherland) executive, the Writers Unleashed Festival committee, the Picture Book Competition judges, or their immediate family members are not eligible to enter.
- All entries will be judged blind. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Need Help?

- Please contact us with any questions at shirefestivalcomp@gmail.com