

Randolph Stow Young Writers Award – 2026



History

The annual Randolph Stow Young Writers Award Presentation Night was hosted by the Geraldton Regional Library at the Queens Park Theatre on 27 August 2026. This year special guest author Aśka presented a video talk. Aśka is an award-winning cartoonist, energetic visual storyteller and an ex-quantum physicist. Aśka is passionate about comics and visual literacy education. When she's not creating, Aśka travels across Australia teaching comics-as-literacy to enthusiastic audiences of all ages.

Categories & Entries

394 entries were received from 21 schools and 11 individuals throughout the Mid-West and Gascoyne regions. 75 awards were presented at the Presentation Night. Entries were organised into five prose categories and five poetry categories:

- Lower Primary Years 3 and 4
- Upper Primary Years 5 and 6
- Lower Secondary Years 7 and 8
- Middle Secondary Years 9 and 10
- Upper Secondary Years 11 and 12

Two additional, separately judged categories awarded 3 prizes:

- The Pat Gallaher Encouragement award
- The Hon. Sandra Carr MLC Emerging Writers Scholarships for Lower Secondary & Upper Secondary

Judges

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| - Deanne Davies | - Nola Gregory |
| - Meredith Wills | - Heather Wallace |
| - Sue Chiera | - Tony Turner |
| - Malcolm Smith | - Tanya Moffat |
| - Jenny Kessell | - Lorraine Chapman |
| - Matilda Scotney | - Bren MacDibble |

Sponsors

- Honourable Melissa Price MP, Federal Member for Durack
- Honourable Sandra Carr MLC, Member for the Agricultural Region
- Honourable Steve Martin MLC, Member for Western Australia
- Ms Kirrilee Warr MLA, Member for Geraldton
- Mr Shane Love MLA, Member for Moore
- The Apex Club of Geraldton
- The Friends of Geraldton Library
- The Geraldton Cultural Trust
- Geraldton Newspapers Ltd.
- The Lions Club of Geraldton
- The Writers of the Coral Coast
- Mrs Helen McArthur – Sister to Randolph Stow
- Mrs Ann Boyle
- J & L Oliveri Cabinet Makers and
- The Literature Centre

Randolph Stow Young Writers Award – 2026



AWARDS

Lower Primary Poetry

- 1st Alina Mohammed, Year 3 – Geraldton Grammar School for the work *No Nature, no us!*
- 2nd Andie Ridley, Year 4 – Meekatharra School of the Air for the work *The Bush and the City*
- 3rd Noah Hutchcraft, Year 4 – Walkaway Primary School for the work *Booger Broccoli*
- HC Leticia Crothers, Year 4 – Walkaway Primary School for the work *Country kid, Country life*
- HC Ethan Hicks, Year 4 - Geraldton Grammar School for the work *When I go to the beach*
- HC Declan Barrett, Year 3 – Geraldton Grammar School for the work *My Cats are the Best*
- HC Astra Griechen, Year 3 – Walkaway Primary School for the work *Girl*.

Lower Primary Prose

- 1st Sage Bartolo, Year 4 - Geraldton Primary School for the work *The Great Escape of the Alien*
- 2nd Mila Partington, Year 4 – St Lawrence's Primary School for the work *The Home Away From Home*
- 3rd Evie Verdouw, Year 3 – Home School for the work *The Dragon in the Night*
- HC Saphia Houghton, Year 3 – Wandina Primary School *Teamwork Makes Everyone Safe*
- HC Anna Horstman, Year 4 – Northampton District High School for the work *The Weirdest 13th Birthday Ever*
- HC Taylah Verdouw, Year 4 – Home School for the work *Stormy Nights*
- HC Rebekah Shedley, Year 4 – Geraldton Christian College for the work *Lost*
- HC Tilly Bennett, Year 4 – Walkaway Primary School for the work *Lost*

Upper Primary Poetry

- 1st Jasmine Breese – Year 5 at Walkaway Primary School for the work *Living in the Bush - Yarraquin Station*
- 2nd Emily Monro– Year 6 at Walkaway Primary School for the work *A Rainy Day Books*
- 3rd Cooper Womersley – Year 6 at Walkaway Primary School for the work *My Garden of Memories*
- HC Amelia Lawrie – Year 6 at Mount Tarcoola Primary School for the work *The Girl Who Kept The Sky*
- HC Bailee Thomas – Year 6 at Geraldton Grammar School for the work *My Imagination*
- HC Harry Wilkes – Year 5 at Geraldton Primary School for the work *The Bush*
- HC Evie Temperton – Year 6 at Waggrakine Primary School for the work *The Best Part of Life*
- HC Mackenzie Scrivener – Year 6 at Waggrakine Primary School for the work *Two Voices*

Upper Primary Prose

- 1st Sienna Crudeli – Year 6 at Saint Francis Xavier Primary School for the work *The Battle at Glendinning Park*
- 2nd Kenzi Crothers – Year 5 at Walkaway Primary School for the work *Cockroach War!*
- 3rd Evie Temperton – Year 6 at Waggrakine Primary School for the work *The Boy Under The Slide*
- HC Harry Wilkes – Year 5 Geraldton Primary School for the work *Bench Warmer*
- HC Bailee Thomas – Year 6 at Geraldton Grammar School for the work *The Snack Attack - Popular Problems*
- HC Jack Monro – Year 6 at St Francis Xavier Primary School for the work *The Lobster Who Dared*
- HC Evelyn Teakle – Year 5 at Northampton District High School for the work *Summer*
- HC Elijah Theodorsen – Year 6 at St Francis Xavier Primary School for the work *Flint's Week Out: Kalbarri Adventure*

Randolph Stow Young Writers Award – 2026



Lower Secondary Poetry

- 1st Deanna Bate – Year 7 at Champion Bay Senior High School for the work *Jellyfish*
- 2nd Imogen Clarke – Year 7 at Nagle Catholic College for the work *The War over Pavlova*
- 3rd Ashlee Isbister – Year 7 at Geraldton Senior High School for the work *The Place I'm From*
- HC Jet Johnson – Year 8, Home School for the work *Dawn to Dusk*
- HC Advait Nambiar – Year 8 at Geraldton Grammar School for the work *The Great Terminal*
- HC Mylah Day – Year 7 at Champion Bay Senior High School for the work *Screaming Rubber*
- HC Coden Spencer – Year 8 at Geraldton Grammar School for the work *What's the world coming to?*

Lower Secondary Prose

- 1st Mikayla Podmore – Year 8 at Geraldton Christian College for the work *A Boss For A Boss*
- 2nd Emily Myers – Year 8 at Geraldton Senior High School for the work *One Lost Kid*
- 3rd Ava Cove – Year 7 at Nagle Catholic College for the work *The bushfire escape*
- HC Charlotte Dalton – Year 7 at Geraldton Grammar School for the work *Black Belt In Overthinking*
- HC Olivia Kittow – Year 7 at Dongara District High School for the work *Super Dog*

Middle Secondary Poetry

- 1st Addison Phillips – Year 9, Home School for the work *A Fragile Spark*
- 2nd Zephayah Paddy – Year 10 at Geraldton Senior High School for the work *My Country - Barrapunta*
- 3rd Aloka Weaver – Year 10 at Geraldton Senior High School for the work *Music is a River*
- HC Claire Marshall – Year 9 Champion Bay Senior High School for the work *What Remains*
- HC Emily Weightman – Year 9 at Geraldton Grammar School for the work *The Storm-Boy*
- HC Abbey Moore – Year 9 at Nagle Catholic College for the work *Who are you.... really?*

Middle Secondary Prose

- 1st Brock Rowe – Year 10 at Northampton District High School for the work *To Whisper is to Die*
- 2nd Isabelle Taylor – Year 10 at Northampton District High School for the work *Detective or Murderer*
- 3rd Louise Horsham Dillon – Year 9 Geraldton Senior High School for the work *The Beast*
- HC Josephine Twigg – Year 9 at Geraldton Senior High School for the work *Winterbourne House*
- HC Tienne Wilson – Year 9 at Geraldton Senior High School for the work *Running From Ghouls*
- HC Nathan Abetz – Year 9 Home School for the work *Darren*
- HC Addison Phillips – Year 9 Home School for the work *The Rules of Watching*

Randolph Stow Young Writers Award – 2026



Upper Secondary Poetry

- 1st Lysander Foster – Year 12 at Geraldton Christian College for the work *Curlew's Cries*
2nd Addison Moses – Year 12 at Nagle Catholic College for the work *Under the Skin*
3rd Natana Miller – Year 11 at Nagle Catholic College for the work *Lacy*
HC Coen Lamb – Year 11 at Nagle Catholic College for the work *Underweight*
HC Sophia Pigdon – Year 11 Geraldton Christian College for the work *Eggs*
HC Julia du Boulay – Year 12 at Home School for the work *I'm Sorry Childhood*
HC Lucie Jones – Year 11 at Nagle Catholic College for the work *Wandering About Tomorrow*
HC Baird Garrett – Year 11 Nagle Catholic College for the work *Call of The Night*

Upper Secondary Prose

- 1st Ahmed Elgamal – Year 11 at Geraldton Grammar School for the work *Reality*
2nd Mya Mead – Year 11 at Nagle Catholic College for the work *Echoes in Locker 317*
3rd Abbie Cook – Year 11 at Geraldton Grammar School for the work *Red Dust Promises*
HC Kaitlyn Carr – Year 12 at Champion Bay Senior High School for the work *To Consume*
HC Austyn Moulds – Year 12 at Nagle Catholic College for the work *Not Just a Bowler*
HC Ashleigh Jones – Year 11 at Nagle Catholic College for the work *Telling on Yourself*
HC Kayley Iaria – Year 11 at Nagle Catholic College for the work *The Mirror that Lies*
HC Zoe Suarez – Year 11 at Nagle Catholic College for the work *The Last Voicemail*

Hon Sandra Carr MLC Emerging Young Writer Scholarship – Lower Secondary

Amelia Lawrie – Year 6 at Mount Tarcoola Primary School for the work *The Girl Who Kept the Sky*

Hon Sandra Carr MLC Emerging Young Writer Scholarship - Upper Secondary

Abbie Cook – Year 11 at Geraldton Grammar School for the work *Red Dust Promises*

Pat Gallaher Encouragement Award

Sophia Pigdon – Year 11 at Geraldton Christian College for the work *Eggs*