

Randolph Stow Young Writers Awards – 2024



History

The thirty-sixth annual Randolph Stow Young Writers Awards were hosted by the Geraldton Regional Library at the Queens Park Theatre. Guest author Bren MacDibble, children's and young adult writer from Kalbarri. Her first two novels (published in 2017) were given six national awards. Her novels deal with environmentally changed futures. Bren's most recent novel *The Apprentice Witnesser* was published in May, a novel, where nearly 12-year-old Bastienne Scull is an apprentice to the Witnesser of Miracles. Her story takes us into a world full of wonder, intrigue and unexpected adventure.

Categories & Entries

Over 450 entries were received from 20 schools 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

2 additional, separately judged categories awarded 3 prizes:

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

Judges

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

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Sponsors

- Honourable Melissa Price MP, Federal Member for Durack
- Honourable Colin de Grussa MLC, Member for the Agricultural Region
- Honourable Sandra Carr MLC, Member for the Agricultural Region
- Mrs Lara Dalton 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

AWARDS

Lower Primary Poetry

- 1st** – Dulina Witharana – Year 4 at St Francis Xavier Primary School - *The Sugar Ant*
2nd – Scout Bailey – Year 4 at Geraldton Grammar School - *TV Tips*
3rd – Annamariya Jobin – Year 4 at St Francis Xavier Primary School - *Magpies*
HC – Amalfi White – Year 4 at St Francis Xavier Primary School - *We Need*
HC – Alice Kuser – Year 4 at St Francis Xavier Primary School - *In the Middle of the World*
HC – Jasmine Breese – Year 3 at Dongara District High School - *Snowy the Shorthorn*

Lower Primary Prose

- 1st** – Jasmine Lois Perry – Year 4 at Geraldton Christian College - *The Otters That Made a Big Difference*
2nd – Sienna Crudeli – Year 4 at St Francis Xavier Primary School - *Sky Shaper*
3rd – Scout Bailey – Year 4 at Geraldton Grammar School - *Nutmeg Montgomery*
HC – Finlay Carrick – Year 3 at Walkaway Primary School - *The Storm of Rich Forest*
HC – Birin Lee – Year 4 at Geraldton Primary School - *Zombie Virus*
HC – Sophie Gibson – Year 3 at St Francis Xavier Primary School - *The Art Competition*
HC – Kirra Allen – Year 4 at Geraldton Primary School - *The Thing*
HC – Kenzi Crothers – Year 4 at Walkaway Primary School - *Ella and the Not So Beautiful Cat*

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Upper Primary Poetry

- 1st** – Coden Spencer – Year 6 at Dongara District High School - *Frankenstein's Second Monster*
2nd – Elizabeth McColl-Olman – Year 6 at St Johns Primary School - *Life*
3rd – Hallie Smith – Year 6 at Yuna Primary School - *My Last Year*
HC – Leah McConkey – Year 6 at Wandina Primary School - *Vitaligo*
HC – Isabelle Van Blerk – Year 5 at Geraldton Primary School - *The Foreshore*
HC – Eliza Pumpa – Year 5 at Meekatharra School of the Air - *Outback Sunsets*
HC – Jet Johnson – Year 6 at Geraldton Christian College - *The Game*
HC – Roland Hedney – Year 6 at Geraldton Primary School - *T3chnology*

Upper Primary Prose

- 1st** – Eva Thurkle – Year 5 at Walkaway Primary School - *Jerrica*
2nd – Asher Ansell – Year 5 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel - *Skunk Vs The League of Doom!*
3rd – Blake Simpson – Year 6 at St Mary's Primary School - *The Convict Boy*
HC – Quade Amps-Mewett – Year 5 at Walkaway Primary School - *Multiverse Portal*
HC – Hafsa Aung – Year 5 at Geraldton Grammar School - *A Cat's Dream*
HC – Ben Walsh – Year 6 at Wandina Primary School - *Marshall and His Upcoming Good Nature*
HC – Benjamin Ritchie – Year 6 at St Francis Xavier Primary School - *The Phantom Pirate*

Lower Secondary Poetry

- 1st** – Addison Phillips – Year 7 at Geraldton Christian College - *The Red Light*
2nd – Jerome Sumesh – Year 7 at Nagle Catholic College - *A Trip to the Beach*
3rd – Cooper Hosking – Year 7 at Nagle Catholic College - *Norm of Wagga Wagga*
HC – Zaylee Scheiche – Year 7 at Champion Bay Senior High School - *The Awe of Autumn*
HC – Austin Goad – Year 7 at Geraldton Grammar School - *Doug and His Bug*
HC – Arum van Tonder – Year 8 at Geraldton Senior High School - *I Have No Money*

Lower Secondary Prose

- 1st** – Addison Phillips – Year 7 at Geraldton Christian College - *Thorns & Roses*
2nd – Harry Ward – Year 8 at Geraldton Grammar School - *Soon to be Soup*
3rd – Bianca Brennan – Year 8 at Geraldton Senior High School - *Arranged to Falling in Love*
HC – Emma Stokes – Year 8 at Geraldton Grammar School - *The Cat and The Mouse*
HC – Claire Marshall – Year 7 at Champion Bay Senior High School - *Donna Reynolds*
HC – Wesley Brown – Year 7 at Geraldton Grammar School - *Happy Halloween?*

Middle Secondary Poetry

- 1st** – Aleesha Chant – Year 10 at Nagle Catholic College - *Wear and Tear*
2nd – Naomi Babanin – Year 10 at Champion Bay Senior High School - *My Safety*
3rd – Abigail Twigg – Year 10 at Geraldton Senior High School - *Innocence Gone*
HC – Molly Louise Shelton – Year 9 at Home School - *My Comfort Zone*
HC – Cassandra Richards – Year 9 at Geraldton Christian College - *Happy Memories*
HC – Lucie Jones – Year 9 at Nagle Catholic College - *Geraldton, My Home*

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Middle Secondary Prose

- 1st** – Jennifer Tobler – Year 9 at Geraldton Grammar School - *Lost in the Light*
2nd – Grace Smith – Year 9 at Home School - *My Life as Milly Sierra Roberts*
3rd – Chloe Cruickshank – Year 10 at Geraldton Grammar School - *Hope*
HC – Addison Orr – Year 9 at Geraldton Christian College - *All it took was a can of beans*
HC – Lara Day – Year 10 at Champion Bay Senior High School - *Home is where the heart is*
HC – Kent Bristow – Year 9 at Geraldton Grammar School - *A Symbol of Happiness and Hope*
HC – Baird Garrett – Year 10 at Nagle Catholic College - *Forever Running*
HC – Pippa Lin – Year 9 at Geraldton Grammar School - *Battle Scars*
HC – Sahar Chowdhury – Year 9 at Geraldton Grammar School - *Fanning the Flames*

Upper Secondary Poetry

- 1st** – Kate Baldock – Year 12 at Nagle Catholic College - *Eternal Rest in a Fiery Sweep*
2nd – Kara Chapman – Year 12 at Nagle Catholic College - *Seablood*
3rd – Freya Geqwin – Year 11 at Nagle Catholic College - *Neglecting Potential*
HC – Harper Dankova – Year 11 at Nagle Catholic College - *A Life in Cheesecake*
HC – Anna Rogers – Year 11 at Nagle Catholic College - *Monocultural Cultivation*
HC – Isabella Laurie – Year 11 at Nagle Catholic College - *Emotion Animal*
HC – Declan Argent – Year 11 at Geraldton Grammar School - *Memory*

Upper Secondary Prose

- 1st** – Hannah Muchamore – Year 12 at Nagle Catholic College - *The Indistinct Thief*
2nd – Kirby Brooks – Year 12 at West Australian Collage of Agriculture Morawa - *Twenty Six Letters*
3rd – Ava Darby – Year 11 at Champion Bay Senior High School - *Not Yet*
HC – Tahlia Ewings – Year 11 at Nagle Catholic College - *Good*
HC – Teagan Bui – Year 11 at Nagle Catholic College - *Autumn*
HC – Dakota Singleton – Year 12 at Nagle Catholic College - *The Voice*
HC – Taylor Penney – Year 11 at Geraldton Grammar School - *The Shoe Shop on Kastanienallee Street*
HC – Gideon Kentish – Year 11 at Geraldton Grammar School - *Freedom Bound*

Hon Sandra Carr MLC Emerging Young Writer Scholarship – Lower Secondary

Addison Phillips – Year 7 at Geraldton Christian College - *Thorns & Roses*

Hon Sandra Carr MLC Emerging Young Writer Scholarship - Upper Secondary

Teagan Bui – Year 11 at Nagle Catholic College - *Autumn*

Pat Gallaher Encouragement Award

Harper Dankova – Year 11 at Nagle Catholic College - *A Life in Cheesecake*