

# Conditions of Entry for Insight's Creative Writing Competition

## 1. Who can enter?

You must be enrolled in Years 7–12 in Australian secondary education to take part in this competition.

## 2. How many times can you enter?

You can only submit one entry.

## 3. Theme

There is an optional theme that you may use to inspire your entry; however, you are not required to write to this or any other theme.

The optional theme is: [Ignite.](#)

## 4. Categories

There are six categories:

- Year 7
- Year 8
- Year 9
- Year 10
- Year 11
- Year 12.

You must only submit an entry in the category that corresponds to your current year level or homeschool equivalent.

## 5. Original work

Entries must be your own original work. This means that your work must **not** be written by, or in conjunction with, your friends, family, teachers or parents, or with the use of AI applications such as ChatGPT.

**Plagiarism will not be tolerated. All entries will be subject to plagiarism and AI detection tests. Any entries found to be plagiarised or written using AI applications will be disqualified.** Entries that have been previously published or submitted in any other writing competition will **not** be accepted.



## 6. Format of entry

You must submit your work according to the guidelines listed below.

- Your entry **must** be a **creative piece** (e.g. short story, poem, script) written in English. (Expository writing, such as essays, will **not** be accepted.)
- Your story **must** have a title.
- The text and title font **must** be 12-point size Times New Roman. Your story **must** be typed with double line spacing.
- Do **not** include your name on your creative piece or in your 100-word statement.
- If you are submitting an electronic copy, please provide a Word document or PDF. JPEGs will **not** be accepted.
- If you are submitting a hard copy, please use A4 white paper.
- We will **not** return your story once you have submitted it. It is your responsibility to make a copy of your work.

## 7. Word count

The length of your creative piece must not exceed 1400 words. There is no minimum word count. If over 1400 words are supplied, the first 1400 will be accepted and the rest of the entry will be cut.

## 8. Written statement

All entries **must** be accompanied by a 100-word statement that addresses at least one of the following:

- your motivation for writing
- the creative inspiration for your entry
- your aspirations for future writing.

This written statement will be used to help determine the winner of a special award that honours the legacy of a founding member of Insight Publications, Iris Breuer.

The **Iris Breuer Writing Award** will take both the creative piece and the written statement into account. This award seeks to recognise and celebrate young people's engagement with and passion for writing and literature.

## 9. Prizes

Prizes will be awarded as follows:

Year 7 – First Prize: \$200

Year 7 – Second Prize: \$125

Year 7 – Third Prize: \$50

Year 8 – First Prize: \$200

Year 8 – Second Prize: \$125

Year 8 – Third Prize: \$50

Year 9 – First Prize: \$250

Year 9 – Second Prize: \$175

Year 9 – Third Prize: \$100

Year 10 – First Prize: \$250

Year 10 – Second Prize: \$175

Year 10 – Third Prize: \$100

Year 11 – First Prize: \$300

Year 11 – Second Prize: \$225

Year 11 – Third Prize: \$150

Year 12 – First Prize: \$300

Year 12 – Second Prize: \$225

Year 12 – Third Prize: \$150

Iris Breuer Writing Award: \$200



Each work will also be considered for the following awards:

**The Rising Star Award** – for consistent progress and dedication to the craft of writing.

**The Change-Maker Award** – for the author uses words to inspire a brighter tomorrow.

**The Staff Selection** – for the story that Insight staff members couldn't put down.

## 10. Submission dates

Entries will be accepted from 9 am on 20 March until 11:59 pm on 1 September 2026.

SUBMISSIONS WILL **NOT** BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE CLOSING DATE.

## 11. Submission form

All entries **must** have the submission form attached.

If you are under 18 years of age, your age **must be verified by a parent's or guardian's signature** on the submission form. Teachers may not complete submission forms on behalf of students. We recommend that a parent or guardian check the submission form upon completion.

Return your submission form, together with your creative piece and 100-word statement, via email (as attachments) or post (details on submission form).

ONLY ENTRIES WITH FULLY COMPLETED SUBMISSION FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

## 12. Judging

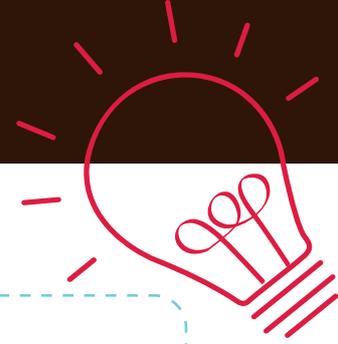
Entries will be judged by a panel of Insight staff and Australian authors. Judges' decisions will be final and no correspondence about the decision will be entered into.

## 13. Awards presentation

Participants will be notified in **November 2026** if their entry has been longlisted. Prizes will be presented to the winners at a celebratory event in Melbourne, Victoria in early **December 2026**. If you enter the competition, we encourage you and your family to attend the awards presentation. Details of the event will be sent to longlisted entrants prior to the awards presentation.

Participants who are unable to attend the awards presentation will have their award certificate sent to them at the address nominated on this submission form. **Insight Publications cannot change the address after items have been posted and cannot be liable for lost goods.**

*Insight Publications acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Country on which we meet and work, the Boonwurrung People of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.*



## SUBMISSION FORM

### I DECLARE THAT:

This submission is entirely my own work and is an original unpublished work.

I have read and understood the Conditions of Entry and by signing this form I agree to comply with the Conditions of Entry, and I declare all information provided below to be true.

100-word statement attached (please tick)

First name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ School year level: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / 2026

### PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT (IF UNDER 18 YEARS):

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the parent/guardian of the entrant named on this form, confirm that this entry is their own work and that all details given on this form are true.

Full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / 2026

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Photography permission

I, \_\_\_\_\_, give permission for Insight Publications to take video footage and/or photographs on the night of the awards presentation. I authorise for these photographs to be used by Insight for their corporate promotional purposes including but not exclusive to their corporate website(s), marketing collateral and social media posts.

Signed (by parent/guardian if entrant is under 18 years of age):

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / 2026

Full name: \_\_\_\_\_

**ENTRIES AND SUBMISSION FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY EMAIL OR POST**

Email your entries and submission forms to [publishing@insightpublications.com.au](mailto:publishing@insightpublications.com.au)

**OR**

Post your entries and submission forms to Insight Publications,  
3/350 Charman Road, Cheltenham, VIC 3192

**ENTRIES  
CLOSE**

**1 SEP  
2026**