

The Golden Pen Competition 2025-6

Terms and Conditions of Entry

- All entries must be the sole work of the entrant: written submissions 2,000 words maximum. Illustrated submissions: 6 x A4 pages maximum.
- Video or recorded submissions will not be considered.
- Entries must not include the name of the entrant on the document.
- Submitted entries must not have received an award in a previous public writing competition.
- Submissions written by, or partly by an Artificial Intelligence program, will be disqualified.
- Entrants must be in School Year Groups 4 to 12 at the time the competition ends, or have been in year 12 in 2025.
- All entrants under the age of 16 must have parent/guardian permission to participate.
- The competition is open to entries from Western Australian residents only.
- Entries must be submitted electronically via the webform or by post between 16 September 2025 and 3 March 2026.
- Any Entries received after 9 March 2026 will not be eligible. Please allow adequate postage time if submitting via mail.
- Shortlisted Applicants will be notified Friday 24 April 2026.
- Documents received (electronically or via post) will not be returned to sender.
- The decision from the judges is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- The competition organisers have the right to alter conditions, in the event circumstances change which are beyond their control.

Competition Categories

- SENIOR – Years 9-12
- MIDDLE – Years 7-8
- JUNIOR – Years 4-6

Prizes

Shortlisted Entrants

- Three shortlisted entrants will be selected from each age category. Shortlisted entrants will be notified by phone/email by Friday 24 April 2026.
- Shortlisted entrants will receive a 6-month book subscription to Paper Bird Book Shop valued up to \$147, and a Scribblers book pack.
- Shortlisted entries may be published on the Scribblers Festival website and/or in the 2025 Golden Pen Anthology.

Winning Entrants

- One overall winner will be selected from each age category.
- Winners will be announced by Monday 18 May 2026.
- The overall winners' entries will be published on the Scribblers Festival website.
- Golden Pen winners from each age category will win an e-reader valued up to \$249, and a Scribblers book pack.

Classroom Entry Prize Draw

- Classroom entries of 5 or more submissions who opt in will be judged on their creative interpretations of the theme as a group entry.
- All entries will also be judged alongside the non-classroom entries for the age category prizes.
- The winning class will win one workshop with a Scribblers creative, either in-person or virtually, depending on availability and school location.
- The winning class will be announced by Monday 18 May 2026.
- If a winning class entered in 2025, the prize will be awarded to the entering teacher and they will decide which class/group of students attends the workshop.
- The date of the workshop will be decided upon negotiation with the Scribblers staff and subject to availability.
- This prize is non-transferrable and the decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into.
- The competition organisers have the right to alter conditions, in the event circumstances change, which are beyond their control.

Important Things To Note

PRIVACY

- In accepting the Prize, the winning and shortlisted entrants and their parents/guardians agree to participate and co-operate as required in all marketing activities relating to the promotion of The Golden Pen Storytelling Competition, including but not limited to being interviewed and photographed for use in various media.
- The winning and shortlisted entrants' work will be published on the Scribblers Festival website at scribblersfestival.com.au.

Public Use of Entries

- By entering this competition you acknowledge that your name, photograph and other information collected in relation to the award may be used in Scribblers publications and for future promotion of the competition.
- The promotor of the competition is Scribblers – part of FORM Building a State of Creativity Inc., 39 Guger Street, Claremont WA 6010.