

In the moment

Being ...
in the moment

It all happens ...
in the moment

The world revolves around ...

the moment

when decisions are made,
events occur,
realisations understood.

Moment by moment.
The moment after, or just before.

This moment in time.

This moment
is
the moment.

Important dates for entrants

**Entries close midnight,
Monday 29 September 2025.**

Winners will be announced at the presentation ceremony.

Presentation date: Thursday 11 December 2025
at 6 pm to 7 pm.

Venue: Max Webber Library Function Centre
Level 1, Corner Flushcombe Road and Alpha Street,
Blacktown.

Entries can **only** be submitted online at
westwords.com.au.

Max Webber Library
Corner Flushcombe
Road and Alpha Street,
Blacktown
Ph: 9839 6677



**Our Library @ The
Mount Druitt Hub**
Ayres Grove, Mt Druitt
Ph: 8886 2000

Dennis Johnson Library
Corner Stanhope Parkway
and Sentry Drive,
Stanhope Gardens
Ph: 9421 2670

Lalor Park Library
Corner Freeman Street and
Northcott Road, Lalor Park
Ph: 9624 5243

**Riverstone Library
& Digital Hub**
1st Floor Riverstone
Village, Market Street
and Riverstone Parade,
Riverstone
Ph: 9627 3823

**Marsden Park
Temporary Library**
Marsden Park
Community Centre
Elara Boulevard,
Marsden Park
Ph: 9839 6003

 /BlacktownCityLibraries
 @BlacktownCityLibraries

BLACKTOWN CITY COUNCIL

2025 Mayoral Creative Writing Prize

In the moment

**Open to adults and children aged 8 years and
above, who live in Blacktown city.**

Entries close midnight, Monday 29 September 2025

Entries can **only** be submitted online at westwords.com.au

2025 Mayoral Creative Writing Prize

In the
moment

Competition guidelines and criteria

Welcome to the Mayoral Creative Writing Prize 2025. It is open to adults and children (aged 8 to 17 years) who live in Blacktown city. The poems and short stories must be works of fiction.

Categories

All entries can be either poetry or short stories. They will be judged in the following age categories, 8 - 11 years, 12 - 14 years, 15 - 17 years and adult (18+).

Theme: in the moment

Weave your ideas, experiences and imaginings based on this theme into your short story or poem.

Judging

Your work will be judged on how original it is, how you have constructed your story or poem, the use of language, (including creative expression, grammar, sentence structure, punctuation and spelling), the way you have developed characters, atmosphere, or setting or used words in a creative way and how it relates to the theme.

It is critical that this work is original and not copied in any way. Copied or AI generated work will be disqualified. Short stories exceeding the 500 words limit, or poems longer than 25 lines will also be disqualified. An independent judging panel will assess all submissions.

For more information, please contact WestWords: Western Sydney Centre for Writing, on 1800 WestWords (1800 937 896) or by email: admin@westwords.com.au

Announcement of the prize winners

The presentation ceremony will take place on Thursday 11 December 2025, at 6 pm. All winners and highly commended recipients will be invited to attend.

Prizes

The total prize pool is \$2,400. Winners aged 17 or younger will receive \$200 and their school, if located in Blacktown City, will receive a corresponding \$100 as an incentive to encourage the budding authors of our local area. Adult winners will receive \$300.

Age	Categories	Prize	School prize
8 -11 years	Poetry	\$200	\$100
	Short Story	\$200	\$100
12-14 years	Poetry	\$200	\$100
	Short Story	\$200	\$100
15-17 years	Poetry	\$200	\$100
	Short Story	\$200	\$100
Adult	Poetry	\$300	-
	Short Story	\$300	-

Submission criteria

- The work must be original and completed in the last 6 months and unpublished in any other source, including school newsletters, prior to the presentation ceremony on 11 December 2025. Entries can be either:
 - poem, maximum of 25 lines
 - short story, maximum of 500 words.
- You are ineligible to enter if you have won in 2024.
- Only one entry per person is permitted in each category.
- Each entry must have one entry per online form.
- The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- All participants will receive a letter acknowledging the receipt of their entry and their participation. A presentation ceremony will be held on Thursday 11 December 2025, where the winners will be announced.
- Submit entries with a completed entry form online at westwords.com.au.

For more information
and to enter:



SCAN ME