

Write in Your Face 2006

Literature Board Young Writers' Initiative

Assessment Meeting Report

What is this report about?

This report lets you know how your submission to Write in Your Face was assessed and who was successful.

Who assessed the submissions?

All the submissions to Write in Your Face were assessed by an assessment panel at a teleconference held on 28 March 2006.

The members of the assessment panel were two Literature Board members, Glyn Parry (WA) and Sophie Masson (NSW), and two youth advisers, Geordie Brookman (QLD), Artistic Development Co-ordinator for the Queensland Theatre Company, and Cicily Ponnor (NSW), freelance arts worker and artist with expertise in writing for performance.

Also attending this meeting were Australia Council staff members Jill Jones (Program Manager) and Leighton Elliot (Administrator). Their role was to make sure the process ran smoothly but they were not involved in any decision-making.

The recommendations from this teleconference were ratified by the full Literature Board at a Board meeting on 21 April 2006. The members of the Board are: Peter Goldsworthy (Chair, SA), Ann Galbally (Vic), Alan Gould (ACT), Jack Hibberd (Vic), Bronwyn Lea (Qld), Sophie Masson (NSW) and Glyn Parry (WA), each of whom had received and considered all submissions before the teleconference.

How were the decisions made?

There were three selection criteria for Write in Your Face:

- innovative excellence
- potential to advance the artistic expression and development of young writers
- evidence the project is well-planned and achievable within timeframe and budget.

The members of the assessment panel read all the submissions, discussed them at the teleconference and ranked all of them from highest to lowest. Funding was recommended for those submissions that came highest on the list, ranked against the selection criteria.

The full Literature Board, after discussion of the recommendations at the Board meeting, decided to accept the recommendations of the assessment panel.

Who got the money?

Write in Your Face attracted 48 submissions from right around Australia. There was money to fund 9 of these submissions, which means the success rate was 18.75%.

Applicant	Project	State	Granted
Sarah-Mace Dennis	Towards the development of 'Diorama: Constructing a Virtual Memory'		\$4,781
Hunter Writers' centre	Towards the creation of a website		\$4,950
Caleb Lewis	Towards the development of 'The Sea Bride'		\$4,200
Lynda Ng	Towards the development of a website		\$5,000
Vienna Parreno	Towards the development of a performance work 'Against Reduction'		\$4,727
SA Writers' Centre	Towards the development of 'Animate Quarterly'		\$4,220
James Stuart	Towards the development of 'The Homeless Gods'		\$4,985
The Salon	Towards the development of an anthology of new writing featured at The Salon		\$5,000
Kylie Trounson	Towards the development of 'The Man with the September Face'		\$5,000
Total amount funded			\$42,863

Some general comments

As the competition for funding is intense, unfortunately many proposals could not be funded.

The assessment panel and the Board made a number of comments in general about the submissions it considered.

- It was felt that some proposals did not fully engage with the aims of Write in Your Face to encourage innovative writing projects. It is not enough, for instance, to simply to put work on a website.

- The Board was pleased to see some projects which genuinely attempted to break down artform boundaries and would look forward to seeing more projects in this vein.
- It was noted that some proposals appeared to be more engaged with the ideas behind the project, and that this placed them at a disadvantage when compared with more well-structured applications which clearly demonstrated what was to be achieved and how it would be done.
- It was noted that a significant number of the applicants did not supply an adequate timeline for their project, although that is one of the criteria.

What else?

Thank you for making a submission to Write In Your Face.

For those of you who were not successful, please don't be disheartened. The fact you made a submission was an important step. Most proposals in most arts funding rounds are not successful, even if they are good projects, as competition is very strong.

If you apply again to us through any of our initiatives or general grant programs, you should speak to one of our staff first. They can help you with specific information about applying and how you might best make your submission clear and focussed. You could also talk to people who have received arts funding in the past as they can also give you good advice.

You may also want to consider seeking funding from your state arts body or local council.

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