Phoenix Prize for Creative Writing

Description

The Prize was established in 2023 by multiple donors as a result of an appeal to alumni and staff of the Master of Creative Writing (MCW) programme. One donation was made in the memory of James Plunkett, the late brother of MCW alumnus Jack Remiel Cottrell.

The main purpose of the Prize is to recognise the student in the Master of Creative Writing degree at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland who has completed, in the year of the award, a manuscript of high quality with strong potential to succeed commercially. The Prize aims to facilitate the completion of that manuscript towards publication.

Selection process

- Nomination is made to the Scholarships Office
- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Selection Committee

Regulations

1. The Prize will be known as the Phoenix Prize for Creative Writing.
2. One Prize will be awarded annually and will be of the value of $3,500.
3. The Prize will be awarded to the student enrolled in the Master of Creative Writing degree who submitted for examination in the year of the award the high-quality of those manuscripts deemed to have strong potential to succeed commercially.
4. To be eligible for consideration, the manuscript must have been submitted for examination by 31 July in the year of the award. Students must submit an electronic copy of their manuscript to the Selection Committee in order to be considered for this Prize.
5. The Prize will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Deputy Head (Academic) of the School of Humanities (or nominee), the Director of the Master of Creative Writing programme (or nominee), and an external examiner, who will normally be a published author and graduate of the Master of Creative Writing programme, nominated by the Chair of the Selection Committee. One member of the Selection Committee will be nominated by the Head of the School of Humanities to be the Chair each
year.

6. The Selection Committee will review the first 30 pages of each manuscript and create a short-list of up to four manuscripts. Short-listed manuscripts will be reviewed in their entirety by the Selection Committee.

7. In the event of a tie, the Selection Committee shall determine whether the Prize may be shared.

8. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if it is determined there is no candidate that meets the criteria and/or no candidate of sufficient merit.

9. The University of Auckland Council can amend or vary these regulations provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Prize.

Notes

I. These regulations are subject to Senate and Council approval.