

UNSW PRESS BRAGG PRIZE FOR SCIENCE WRITING

THE UNSW PRESS BRAGG PRIZE FOR SCIENCE WRITING 2026 AND THE BEST AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE WRITING 2026 ANTHOLOGY

From the furthest reaches of the universe to the microscopic world of our genes, science offers writers the kind of scope other subjects simply can't match. Good writing about science can be moving, funny, exhilarating or poetic, but it will always be honest and rigorous about the research that underlies it.

To recognise the best of the best, UNSW Press established an annual prize for the best short non-fiction piece on science written for a general audience. The Bragg UNSW Press Prize is named in honour of Australia's first Nobel Laureates, William Henry Bragg and his son, William Lawrence Bragg.

With the support of UNSW Science and the Copyright Agency Cultural Fund, UNSW Press will award a first prize of \$7000 for the piece of non-fiction writing that best communicates science to a general audience. Two runners-up will each receive a prize of \$1500. Winning entries will be included in NewSouth's anthology, *The Best Australian Science Writing 2026*.

The Best Australian Science Writing is an annual collection celebrating the finest voices in Australian science writing. This much-loved anthology, now in its sixteenth year, will showcase the most powerful, insightful and brilliant investigative stories, essays and poetry, highlighting the depth and range of science writing in Australia.

This entry form is applicable for writers interested in entering the UNSW Press Bragg Prize for Science Writing 2026, *The Best Australian Science Writing 2026* anthology, or both. Entries for the prize and the anthology close on 31 March 2026. The winner of the prize will be announced in November 2026. Those selected for the anthology will be notified separately.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. To be eligible for the UNSW Press Bragg Prize for Science Writing 2026, entries must have been first published in print and/or online between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026.
2. To be eligible for *The Best Australian Science Writing 2026* anthology, entries must have been first published in print and/or online between 1 January 2025 and 31 March 2026.
3. Entries must be non-fiction written for a non-specialist audience by no more than two authors. Extracts from longer published works, including books, may be submitted. Extracts from academic theses or conference papers will not be considered. Previously unpublished work will not be considered.
4. Maximum word length is 7000, but shorter entries are encouraged. No more than 3 entries per author will be accepted for the prize and the anthology. Entries must be submitted via email in a Word document or PDF with word count clearly stated.
5. Authors must be permanent residents or citizens of Australia.

6. Employees of UNSW Press Ltd and their immediate family members are not eligible to enter. Employees of UNSW are eligible to enter.
7. Winners of the prize will be selected by a panel of judges, whose decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into.
8. Selection of works to be included in *The Best Australian Science Writing 2026* will be at the sole discretion of the editor and the publisher and no correspondence will be entered into.
9. By entering the prize, authors give their personal permission for the submitted piece to be included in *The Best Australian Science Writing 2026* anthology, if selected by the editor.
10. Entries may be submitted by the author's publisher, agent or other representative, but the author's declaration must be signed by the author. Entries where the author has not signed the declaration will not be accepted.
11. Entries must be sent by email before 31 March 2026 to: scienceprize@newsouthpublishing.com

For more information contact: scienceprize@newsouthpublishing.com
<https://unsw.press/the-unsw-press-bragg-prize-for-science-writing/>

UNSW PRESS BRAGG PRIZE FOR SCIENCE WRITING

ENTRY FORM

NAME OF AUTHOR:.....
(plus online or professional pseudonym if applicable)

ADDRESS:.....

PHONE:..... EMAIL:.....

NAME AND POSITION OF PUBLISHER/AGENT/NOMINATOR, IF NOT THE AUTHOR:

.....

COMPANY:.....

ADDRESS:.....

PHONE:..... EMAIL:.....

TITLE OF WORK:.....

TYPE OF WORK:..... WORD COUNT:.....
(e.g. essay, blog entry, magazine article, book extract, poem)

WHERE WAS THE WORK ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED?.....
(i.e. the name and url of the blog, or title of the magazine, book or other platform)

WHEN WAS THE WORK FIRST PUBLISHED?.....
(only works first published between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026 will be accepted for the prize. Works first published between 1 January 2025 and 31 March 2026 will be accepted for the anthology.)

DOES THE AUTHOR HOLD COPYRIGHT TO THE WORK? YES NO

IF THE AUTHOR DOES NOT HOLD COPYRIGHT TO THE WORK, PLEASE PROVIDE THE NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS OF THE COPYRIGHT HOLDER:

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AUTHOR'S DECLARATION:

I, the author, declare that I have read the terms and conditions of the UNSW Press Bragg Prize for Science Writing 2026 and agree to abide by them. I certify that the work is original and that I am the sole author. I declare that I am a permanent resident/citizen of Australia. If the copyright to the nominated work is not owned by me, or if permission to republish the work is required from any other party, I agree to help UNSW Press to obtain permission for my work, if selected, to be published in *The Best Australian Science Writing 2026*.

SIGNATURE:

DATE: