



Media Release

Gary Higgins  
Minister for Arts and Museums

## **2016 NT Literary Awards- Finalists announced**

8 July 2016

The finalists of the prestigious Northern Territory Literary Awards have today been announced.

The 2016 awards attracted almost 300 entries across seven categories, which include poetry, essays, short stories and travel writing as well as theatre scripts, flash fiction and a youth award.

“The high number of entries demonstrates to me that our plan to support a Confident Culture is working. As a government we are continuing to invest in education and social infrastructure,” said Minister for Arts and Museums Gary Higgins.

“Launching ‘Vibrant NT’- our long term plan for Arts, is the one of most exciting and important arts and cultural decisions this decade”.

Out of the 300 entries, the field was narrowed down to 24 finalists who were selected by an independent panel of judges.

Northern Territory Library Director Patrick Gregory said the finalists represented the strength of Northern Territory writing.

“It’s pleasing to see so many pieces of work entered into the awards and I congratulate all the shortlisted writers,” he said.

“The talent among the Northern Territory writing community is quite astounding and the Northern Territory Library is delighted to recognise and celebrate their achievements.”

The Northern Territory Library has run the awards since 2002, with the support of its sponsors.

“We are all about facilitating the creation of great Territory stories, and there’s certainly a rich culture of storytelling here, that reflects who we are as a community,” Mr Gregory said.

“We are so delighted to have such support for these awards, most notably our Principal Partner for the awards, Charles Darwin University.”

The winners will be announced at a special event on Wednesday 27 July at the Northern Territory Library, Parliament House in conjunction with the NT Writers’ Centre’s Territory Read Book Awards.

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