Eumundi Writers Festival 2026 Short Story, Young Writers and Poetry Award Entry Form

The Festival welcome entries for the following 2026 Award Categories:

- *Eumundi Writers Festival Short Story Award 2026*
- *Eumundi Writers Festival Young Writers Short Story Award* 2026
- Eumundi *Writers Festival Poet Laureate Award* 2026

We seek to build a collection of works over time to capture words and reflections on Eumundi's past, present and future. We are looking for stories and poems that speak of our place here in the northern Sunshine Coast and Noosa hinterland. We want to showcase our local talent and to win the hearts and minds of those who read your stories about this place, about our place. All genres are invited. The Short-list will be announced at the Opening Night event and these winners will provide up to 400 word recitals of their entries and received audience feedback at the Festival on Sunday 6/9/26 at 9am in the Literary Lounge, Eats Eumundi. Written feedback from the judges will also be provided.

Poet Laureate

We aim for our Poet Laureate Award to provide a local pathway into Queensland Poetry Awards, the *Australian Poet Laureate* and the forthcoming *Australian Youth Poet Laureate Awards.* The Poet Laureate Award seeks to amplify the diverse voices of local poets, to help them share their messages widely.

All winners will receive $750 cash from the Awards sponsor the Eumundi & District Community Association, $100 Berkelouw Bookstore Voucher and a five day Writing Residency at the Eumundi Guesthouse and B&B cottage (at dates over the next six months to be agreed).

As there is a lot of interest in these Awards please note that entries that do not follow the Terms and Conditions below will not be accepted.

Title of Story or Poem	
Name of Author	
Postal Address	
Email Address	
Phone Number	
Word Count	
Has applicant submitted a 400 word extract for the Short Story and Young Writers	Yes/No

Terms and Conditions of Entry

Eligibility

1. Entries must speak about Eumundi's past, present and future.
2. Short Story and Poet Laurette Award entrants must be over 18 years of age at the closing date. The Young Writers Award is for 18-30 year olds.
3. Authors must be current Australian residents and live (or have lived) in the northern Sunshine Coast or Noosa Hinterland. Local writers will be prioritized.

4. Entries must be original work by the author that have not and will not be published in way or any part before 30 September 2026.
5. Entries must be original work and the author and must not have been generated in any way with the assistance of Artificial Intelligence (AI).
6. Entries are submitted unencumbered/unrestricted, with full first publication rights available to the Festival (a project of the Eumundi Residents Association Inc.). Copyright remains with the author and the Eumundi Residents Association will respect the moral rights of all entrants.
7. There is a limit of one entry per person and this will include those submitted under a pseudonym.
8. Any entries submitted for this award cannot be simultaneously considered for any other competitions or awards.
9. Entered works may be published in an anthology of Eumundi Writers Festival Short Story Awards for a one-off payment of $250.00.
10. The awardee's names, biographies and images may be used in marketing and publicity materials associated with the Award, and the author will participate in media interviews, speaking engagements, publicity and if requested will review their experience of being a winner in a brief presentation (in person or written) at the next festival.

Submission Process

11. To ensure absolute anonymity and a 'blind' judging process, the name of the entrant should appear only on this application form and NOT on the work submitted (including in the header or footer). The author's name must not appear in the digital file. The filename sent via email must only be the title of the story.
12. Full entries, a 400 word extract (for *Short Story and Young Writers Short Story*) and a receipt of proof of payment must be emailed to director@eumundiwritersfestival.com.au by 5pm on Friday 14/8/25. If you have difficulties with this process please email queries.
13. Entrants must inform the Eumundi Writers Festival of any Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Cultural and Intellectual Property in or affected by their story at the time of entry and advise of any special considerations that might apply to this property.

Format

14. Stories must be 1000 - 5000 words. Longer works will be ineligible. There is no word specification for poems.
15. Entries must include a 400 word extract.
16. All works must be in English, typed in 12-point sized font, 1.5 spaced. Double sided entries are acceptable.
17. Handwritten entries will be accepted but must be accompanied by an exact replica, typed version.
18. Entries cost $20 each. Payment can be made via a $20 deposit to Eumundi Residents Association Inc, Bendigo Bank, BSB 633000 and Account 226345999. Please mark the deposit with your name and "Eumundi Writers Festival Awards 2026".

Judging Process

19. The Judging Panel decision is final.
20. Winning entries will be announced at the Closing Ceremony of the Eumundi Writers Festival on 6/9/26 and will be published on the www.eumundiwritersfestival.com.au website.
21. The Eumundi Writers Festival will have absolute discretion on entries that are considered invalid, those that should be rejected, conditions of entry and on the judging process and no correspondence will be entered into.
22. The judges will not be required to choose a winner for all categories.

By entering this the competition and signing below you are confirming that you understand and agree to the above conditions of entry and will provide proof of eligibility if requested.

Signed _____

Dated _____