



DAVID WILLIAMSON PRIZE GUIDELINES

About the Prize

The AWG established the David Williamson Prize in 2013 to champion the work of Australian playwrights and the unique perspectives they reflect on Australian stages. The David Williamson Prize is made possible thanks to the generous donations of Shane and Cathryn Brennan and David and Kristin Williamson.

The David Williamson Prize is comprised of:

- (i) a \$40,000 prize awarded to the playwright of the most outstanding theatre script of the given year; and
- (ii) an \$80,000 grant awarded to the theatre company which staged the winning theatre script, for the purposes of commissioning, developing and staging a new Australian work.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- A. All works entered must be written in English (or include an English translation) and must be written by an AWG member who is an Australian national (or an Australian resident) and performed in Australia.
- B. All works entered must have had their first professional production (as distinct from reading) or been produced or curated by any recognised theatre company between 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024.
- C. If a work is nominated, all Entrants must be financial Full Members or Associate Members of the Australian Writers' Guild at the time of the presentation of the Prize at the 58th Annual AWGIE Awards. Student Members are required to upgrade to Associate Membership to enter the AWGIE Awards, or to Full Membership if eligible.
- D. To be eligible, Entries must have won the AWGIE Award for one of the following Categories:
 - a. Theatre – Stage Original.
 - b. Theatre – Stage Adapted.
 - c. Theatre – Community Theatre.
 - d. Theatre for Young Audiences; or
 - e. Music Theatre

Theatre – Stage Original and Adapted is a work written for theatre and has been produced or curated by any recognised theatre management or institution.

Community Theatre is created with input from a particular community, school or youth group (geographical or interest-based) and can have been performed by a professional,

non-professional or student cast. The writer will have been commissioned to work in consultation with the youth group, school or community, involving such processes as workshops, oral research and/or community contributions to some or all aspects of the Work.

Theatre for Young Audiences is written for a target audience of children or young people of any age up to and including 18 years. It includes 'Children's Theatre' and 'Theatre in Education' and is usually performed by a professional cast.

Music Theatre is a work written for the theatre, in which music plays an integral part.

The theatre company receiving the grant must execute a grant agreement between the company and the AWG. It will be a condition of the grant that the theatre company commission and program a new Australian Work within 24 months of being awarded the grant and the work must be programmed and performed by the company for no fewer than 25 performances. Subject to their professional availability, the winning playwright will be commissioned by the theatre company to write the work. The commissioning agreement will be subject to review and approval by the AWG to ensure it is consistent with fair and reasonable industry standards, including the terms of the AWG-AMPAG Theatre Industry Agreement 2016.

- E. It is the entrant's responsibility to ensure that all submitted credits are correct and correspond to the credits on the production. The AWG reserves the right to withdraw an entry at any time if it finds otherwise. Entries may be deemed ineligible if the entrant has not provided the required information before the closing date for entries. Once judging has begun, if the information provided by the entrant is determined in the AWG's opinion to be sufficiently subject to question or doubt, the AWG similarly reserves the right to withdraw the entry.
- F. All instances of collaborations and authorship (applicable under AWG rules) must be declared, and all joint writers who are members of the AWG must be party to the entry. Where an AWG member has co-written with a non-AWG member, the AWG Member may enter the script provided that all co-writers who would qualify for a writing credit are acknowledged in the entry.
- G. Any decision relating to the David Williamson Prize is made by the AWG after due deliberation, is final, and no subsequent correspondence can be entered into.