

## Submission Guidelines

### 1. About the Shine Writers' Prize

The inaugural Shine Writers' Prize recognises the role of writing and storytelling in promoting and supporting emotional wellbeing and social connection. The Shine Writers' Prize is free to enter and is open to all Lifetime Care participants, workers in the Workers Care Program and active clients of Dust Diseases Care. The Shine Writers' Prize is delivered in partnership with Accessible Arts NSW.

The 2023 Shine Writers' Prize theme is "Who I Am". Your entry must relate to this theme.

The Shine Writers' Prize will accept either written works in the form of short stories or poetry, or a storyboard (visual story). Written works or storyboards you have completed within 12 months prior to the competition opening are eligible for entry.

Submissions for the Shine Writers' Prize open on **3 May 2023** and will close on **26 July 2023**.

### 2. Prize categories

There are two categories for the 2023 Shine Writers' Prize:

**Category 1 – Adults (16 years and over):**

A written work up to 1000 words OR a storyboard

Winning prize: \$300

Runner-up prize: \$100

Highly commended prize: \$50

**Category 2 - Children (15 years and under):**

A written work up to 500 words OR a storyboard

Winning prize: \$300

Runner-up prize: \$100

You can submit either a:

- written work within the word limit for the category  
OR
- a storyboard (visual story) - your entry will need to be 2 - 4 x A4 pages, with a minimum of 4 square or rectangle boxes on each page. A storyboard uses pictures or drawings in a series of boxes to tell a story- like in a comic.

### 3. Who can enter

You must be a Lifetime Care participant, worker in the Workers Care Program or an active client of

Dust Diseases Care supported by an icare case officer or coordinator.

You do not need previous writing or publication experience to enter.

## 4. How to submit your work

You can submit your entry in one of two ways:

1. Use the online form: <https://www.icare.nsw.gov.au/shine-writers-prize> OR
2. Submit via email: [shinewritersprize@icare.nsw.gov.au](mailto:shinewritersprize@icare.nsw.gov.au)

- entries will be accepted between **3 May – 26 July 2023**
- use one of the following file formats for your entry: WORD DOC, WORD DOCX, or PDF.
- you must include your name, contact details and title of your written work or storyboard
- you can only enter 1 written work or storyboard
- you will not be able to edit your work once you submit your entry
- late submissions will not be accepted after the closing date.

Please contact [shinewritersprize@icare.nsw.gov.au](mailto:shinewritersprize@icare.nsw.gov.au) or phone: (02) 7922 1115 if you have questions or require support for your application, or if you'd like to discuss alternate submission arrangements for your application.

## 5. Assessment of entries

Entries will be assessed by an independent judging panel including writers with disability. Winners will be announced in August 2023. Your entry will be assessed using the following criteria:

- creativity and originality
- quality of artistic composition and execution
- response to theme
- overall impression of the written work

## 6. Frequently asked questions

### What is the theme for this year's Shine Writers' Prize

The theme for 2023 is "Who I Am".

### How do I get started?

Instruction videos on how to get started with your creative writing piece:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ae61kGNpQPs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6S7yB12Gjxs>

This video offers tips on how to begin your story:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UigjnxgyOSQ>

### What are the types of writing formats I can apply for?

The types of writing are: Short Story, Poetry, or Storyboard / Visual Story.

See our Glossary below for a description of each type.

### **What are some ways to check and edit my written work?**

- Try reading your written work out loud to yourself – does it sound right? This is a good way to check your work.
- Have a friend or family member read it and give feedback
- If you are writing in a word document, there is a spelling and grammar check you can use called “Spelling and grammar” (or “Editor” in Office365). This video shows you where to find this: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uzrpa-gwN1A>
- There are free online programs designed to help with your writing. You can use a free version of Grammarly to check spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Try the program here: <https://www.grammarly.com/>

### **I want to create a storyboard! How many pages can I submit?**

Adult entrants are required to submit 2 x A4 pages, between 4-6 boxes per page. Children aged 15 years and under can submit 2 x A4 pages with a minimum of 4 boxes per page.

### **Is there a storyboard template I can use?**

If you need a guide for making your own storyboard, there is a sample storyboard template on the Shine Writers’ Prize webpage: <https://www.icare.nsw.gov.au/shine-writers-prize>

Here is some information on how to put together your own storyboard:

<https://www.canva.com/learn/how-to-build-a-storyboard/>

## **7. Glossary**

- **Short Story** is a piece of writing that tells a story. This can include creative stories, true stories, autobiographies.
- **Storyboard** is a visual story using drawings or pictures presented in a series of boxes, usually with text descriptions underneath.
- **Poetry** is a piece of writing that expresses feelings and ideas and is usually formatted as a rhythm or a set of lyrics.