

2020 Competition Prizes

All entrants will receive a certificate of participation via email or print if preferred.

Prizes are awarded in 4 categories: Years 5/6, 7/8, 9/10 and 11/12.

\$350 for each category winner and \$200 for each category runner-up. Winners and runners-up will receive their prize at an awards ceremony.

Overall Competition Winner

The overall competition winner, announced at the awards ceremony, will receive an iPad and a trophy. The overall winner will also be invited to spend a day*** at the [Museum of Australian Democracy](#) (MoAD) at Old Parliament House in Canberra – meeting a curator, getting behind the scenes and contributing their voice to MoAD's programs.

The overall competition winner will be selected from finalists in NSW, ACT, VIC, WA and *What Matters?* Tasmania.

Most Engaged School

The School that submits the most entries will be selected as the most engaged school. To reward the school for their commitment to encouraging students to think and write about 'what matters' the school will receive two consecutive full-day civics education workshops, delivered at the winning school by the Whitlam Institute's Civics Education officer.

Prizes

The Years **5/6 and 7/8** category winners and runners up will each receive a full-day creative writing workshop donated by [The Writing Workshop](#), conducted by award-winning author Bernard Cohen.

The Year **9/10** category winner will be invited to spend a day at [ReachOut.com](#), meeting the team and receiving professional training. They will also be offered the opportunity to be paid \$200 to produce a feature article for the ReachOut.com website.

The Year **11/12** category winner will receive a 1 Year Membership to [Writing NSW](#) and the opportunity to participate in a one-day writing workshop* donated by [Writing NSW](#).

Host an Author

[WestWords](#) (Western Sydney's Literature Development Organisation for Young People) will offer one lucky school the chance to host an author at their school**. The school prize will be randomly drawn from the shortlisted entries, which will be announced in June. The winning

What Matters?

school will be invited to liaise with WestWords to determine which author would suit their students best.

Artistic Merit Award

For the work that possesses special imaginative qualities, achieved through exceptionally creative use of language and/or an outstanding concept.

[Varuna, the National Writers House](#) is offering a mentorship program with a published author. The mentorship program includes 3 x 30 minute guided mentoring sessions over several weeks, delivered by phone or by Skype, and hosted by a member of the Varuna staff. During these sessions the student will have the opportunity to learn about the career path of a published author and receive advice and practical feedback about their own writing practice.

Graham Freudenberg Award

A new award, in honour of the late Graham Freudenberg, will recognise an entry that presents outstanding commentary on Australian social and political issues and argues cogently for policy ideas and solutions. The Whitlam Institute will fly the winner and an accompanying adult to Canberra to spend the day at Parliament House shadowing Political speechwriters and journalists in the Press Gallery. This will include two nights of accommodation in Canberra and transport for the winner and one accompanying parent.

* To participate in a Writing NSW workshop you must be over the age of 16. Participants under the age of 18 must have their participation approved in advance. Writing NSW cannot guarantee that all workshops will be available.

**To be hosted by the end of the 2020 school year.

***The Museum of Australian Democracy will cover the flights/vehicle expenses associated with the trip to Canberra for the winning student and an accompanying adult up to a maximum of \$2000. This does not include accommodation expenses. Entry to the Museum is free. To participate in a visit to the Museum you must be over the age of 10. Participants under the age of 18 must have their participation approved in advance. The offer must be redeemed by 15 December 2020.