



27 October 2014

Year 7 student takes out Overall Winner at the Roland Leach Poetry Prize Awards

A young talented writer has taken out the “Overall Winner” title at the City of Nedlands Library’s 5th Roland Leach Poetry Prize Awards on Thursday 23 October 2013.

Year seven student, Amos Choo, not only took home the title of the Overall Winner for his entry “The Weavers”, he also took out first place for the poem in Category B (for years 6 and 7) in the competition.

“This is the first time I have entered into the Roland Leach competition. I really enjoy writing poetry because there are no rules to it and I can write what is on my mind, it feels like magic,” said Amos.

City of Nedlands Mayor, Max Hipkins, said: “The Roland Leach Poetry competition provides an opportunity for young people to express themselves and show their creative written talents. It was great to see so many young people from our local area, schools and across Western Australia support the City of Nedlands Library service and get involved in the competition.

This year, the City received a record number of entries from young talented writers. It was interesting to read many of the winning entries, congratulations to all of the young winners, including Amos Choo for his winning entry, The Weavers.”

The Roland Leach Poetry Prize is a biennial competition that has been run by the City of Nedlands Library Service since 2005. It aims to promote poetry in the community and to recognise and reward outstanding, original works of poetry written by young people in Western Australia.

The competition is open to young people from ages 7 to 25, and is divided into 5 categories based on age group. The most entries this year were from Category C, which includes years 8, 9 and 10 students, at 182 entries, followed by Category B, years 6 and 7 students, at 156 entries.

This is the City’s fifth year of the competition This year the City of Nedlands library received a total number of 622 entries from 82 schools across the state.

Prizes were also awarded to the school with the most number of entries under the section ‘The Most Enthusiastic School’ and to the school with the most number of winning entries under the section ‘The Most Poetic School’.

Local Western Suburbs Poet and patron of the Roland Leach Poetry competition, Roland Leach, said: “I am always amazed at the imaginations of young people and poetry is an art that allows for this creativity to be channelled within poetic form. In an age where poetry is not a high priority it is gratifying to see so many students to submit such wondrous pieces.”

The Winners of the 2014 Roland Leach Poetry Competition:

Category A

1st	Stella Carapetis
2nd	Asher Stevenson
3rd	Angelina Newby
Highly Commended	Arya Moodley

Category B

1st Amos Choo
2nd Lauren Yeoh
3rd Megan Cheng
Highly Commended Bella Marendoli-Murray

Category C

1st Samantha Crisp
2nd Emma Chen
3rd Michael Keller
Highly Commended Jade Norton

Category D

1st Ellen Frodsham
2nd Georgina Earl
3rd Christina Lau
Highly Commended Serena Green

Category E

1st Jonathan Goh Yong Chern

Most enthusiastic School – Dalkeith Primary with 76 entries

Most Poetic School – Willetton Senior high School with 2 winning entries

Special thanks to our sponsors; The Lane Bookshop in Claremont who sponsored all of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd book vouchers in each category and Sunline Press who sponsored the overall winner's momentary prize and sponsored the judge's time.

Bio of Roland:

Roland Leach is our local western suburbs poet. He's the Head of English at Presbyterian Ladies' College, in Peppermint Grove. Roland is the founder and Editor of Brillig, a literary journal of poetry and prose for teenagers which existed between 1995 and 2000. He is the proprietor of Sunline Press.

For more information please contact the City on 9273 3500 or council@nedlands.wa.gov.au

About the City of Nedlands

The City of Nedlands is situated 7km from Perth and stretches from the banks of the Swan River to the edge of the Indian Ocean. A population of over 21,000 live in the suburbs of Nedlands, Dalkeith, Mt Claremont, Swanbourne, Karrakatta, and parts of Floreat and Shenton Park.

For further information please contact communications@nedlands.wa.gov.au or 9273 350