

## Announcing the winners of the 2017 John Marsden & Hachette Australia Prize for Young Writers



Express Media is thrilled to announce **The 2017 John Marsden & Hachette Australia Prize for Young Writers** was awarded to **Rose Forrest, Angela Chen** and **Maz Howard** at a special event during the Melbourne Writers Festival on Thursday August 31.

The John Marsden & Hachette Australia Prize for Young Writers is an exclusive creative writing prize open to Australian secondary school students. This year, over 600 entries were received across three categories; fiction, nonfiction and poetry.

The award was judged by author and Express Media patron, John Marsden, and staff of Hachette Australia and Express Media.

Fifteen shortlisted writers travelled to Melbourne to meet John Marsden and participate in an exclusive workshop with new creative fiction author Mark Brandi, ahead of the announcement of the winners at the Melbourne Writers Festival.

Express Media and Hachette Australia were thrilled by the number of entries, the high calibre of writing submitted, and the impressive creative talent of the three awarded young writers.

Hachette Australia Publisher Vanessa Radnidge, said, "It is always a tough job selecting the winners of the John Marsden Prize and this year there were some incredibly talented young writers on the shortlist. As a publisher, it is wonderful to see young emerging writers demonstrating such confidence in language and sophistication in their work.

"I would like to congratulate all the winners and applaud every writer who bravely entered their work."

Rose Forrest won the fiction category with short story *A Stretching Summer*, Angela Chen won the nonfiction category with *From, From?* and Maz Howard won the poetry category for *victim blaming*.

Rose, Angela and Maz each receive a \$500 cash prize, \$500 reimbursement of travel to Melbourne Writers Festival, a selection of YA titles from Hachette Australia, publication of their work on the Express Media blog, and acknowledgement of their award in Express Media's flagship publication, *Voiceworks*.

Express Media, John Marsden and Hachette Australia congratulate all of the shortlisted entrants, and we look forward to reading more of their work in the future.

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