



## Williamstown Literary Festival 2026

# Young Adas Short Story Prize 2026

For 14 to 18-year-old western suburbs writers  
\$250 first prize

Competition closes at midnight Sunday, 8 March 2026

### Conditions of entry

1. This prize is open to writers aged between 14 and 18 years on 8 March 2026 who live, work or study in the western suburbs of Melbourne.
2. There is no entry fee.
3. Stories to be no more than 1000 words. The work should be original, written in English and not have been previously published. It should not have won a prize in any other competition. It should not make use of words from a text published by another author. Entrants should not submit stories that are partly - or fully - generated by AI. Any AI use for creative or editing purposes should be attributed with details of how it was used.
4. Entries must be typed in Arial 11-point font and be 1.5 spaced. Page numbers should appear on every page. For judging purposes, the author's name should appear only on the entry form and not on any part of the story.
5. Only one entry per person.
6. The story should be uploaded as a Word document (*not* PDF) via the Williamstown Literary Festival's website at <https://www.willylitfest.org.au/ada-cambridge-prizes>. Please use your surname and the title of your story as the name of your Word document. The website includes an online form for submitting your details, including your name, bio, postal and email addresses, and the title of your story. If electronic / online submission is difficult for you, please email [a.anastasi@willylitfest.org.au](mailto:a.anastasi@willylitfest.org.au) for assistance.
7. Closing date for entries is midnight on Sunday 8 March 2026. No late entries will be accepted.
8. The shortlisted writers, together with their families and friends, will be invited to the announcement of the winner at the Williamstown Literary Festival on June 12-14, 2026.



9. The winner will receive a prize of \$250. In the event of there being joint winners, the prize money will be equally divided. All those whose stories are shortlisted will receive a certificate.
10. The prize-winning story, and all those shortlisted, will be published. The winning story will be selected based on its originality, the vividness of its narrative and its effectiveness as fiction. Entries should be carefully proofread, as presentation will be taken into consideration when judging. Last year's winning and shortlisted entries, and the comments of the judges, can be read on the Williamstown Literary Festival website.
11. Authors retain copyright, but the Williamstown Literary Festival Committee reserves the right to reproduce the whole or any part of the story in any format (whether or not it is a winning entry) for purposes of promoting the Williamstown Literary Festival.
12. The judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.
13. Stories will not be returned, so authors should retain a copy of the original.

**Western suburbs postcodes eligible for entry in the Young Adas Short Story Prize 2026:**

<b>Brimbank:</b>	<b>3020, 3021, 3022, 3023, 3033, 3036, 3037, 3038</b>
<b>Hobsons Bay:</b>	<b>3015, 3016, 3018, 3025, 3028</b>
<b>Hume:</b>	<b>3043, 3045, 3047, 3048, 3049, 3059, 3060, 3061, 3062, 3063, 3064, 3427, 3428, 3429, 3430</b>
<b>Maribyrnong:</b>	<b>3011, 3012, 3013, 3019, 3032</b>
<b>Melton:</b>	<b>3023, 3037, 3335, 3337, 3338, 3340, 3427</b>
<b>Moonee Valley:</b>	<b>3031, 3033, 3034, 3039, 3040, 3041, 3042</b>
<b>Wyndham:</b>	<b>3024, 3026, 3027, 3029, 3030, 3211</b>