



It's time to be published

New authors called to apply to Magabala Books



WUNAMBAL

Elder, author
and poet
Daisy

Utemorrah

had a passion
for young
people and education.

Her poetry and work has inspired Magabala Books to create a national award for a new unpublished manuscript by an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander writer – and your chance to win the award is here.

The Daisy Utemorrah Award is an award for a work of junior and young adult fiction, including graphic novels. The winner will receive a cash prize of \$15,000 and their manuscript will be published with Magabala Books, under the guidance of an Indigenous editor.

Magabala Books publisher Rachel Bin Salleh said she would like to see better representation of Indigenous authors in junior and young adult fiction.

"We're hoping the award



Daisy Utemorrah

will help contribute to the growth of Indigenous and diverse voices for younger readers," she said.

Poet Daisy Utemorrah was from the Mitchell Plateau area in the far north Kimberley, and was also one of the founders of Magabala Books. She wrote the poetry collection *Do Not Go Around the Edges* (illustrated by Pat Torres, Magabala) in 1991. It was shortlisted for the 1991 Children's Book Council of Australia Book of the Year

for Young Readers and won the 1992 Australian Multicultural Children's Book Award.

"Daisy Utemorrah was passionate about young people and education and that's why we named this award in her honour," Ms Salleh said.

Launched as part of the WA Premier's Book Awards last year, the Daisy Utemorrah Award is a new addition to the national literary award circuit. It is offered in partnership with the State Government of Western Australia and the Copyright Agency Cultural Fund.

"The inclusion of the Daisy Utemorrah Award in the Premier's Book Awards reflects the State Government's commitment to Indigenous writers, here in WA and nationally," Ms Salleh said.

Application details for the Daisy Utemorrah Award can be found on the Magabala Books website. Applications close on April 30.