

This is a summary of Cultural Fund projects appearing in the media since June 2025.

Cultural Fund Media Releases

- [‘Time to write: Copyright Agency’s Cultural Fund names 2025 Fellowship recipients’](#), 30 October
- [‘nipaluna/Hobart-based artist Heather B. Swann awarded Copyright Agency Partnerships commission, in collaboration with UNSW Galleries’](#), 2 October

Cultural Fund Projects

Copyright Agency 2025 Fellowships for Australian Writers

- 'Janson, van Loon, Vucic awarded Copyright Agency fellowships', [Books+Publishing](#), 23 October

Copyright Agency Partnerships

- UNSW Galleries 2025-26 – Heather B. Swann's *The Forests of Symbols* 4 September – 22 November 2026
 - 'Heather B. Swann Awarded \$80,000 Commission for Major UNSW Galleries Exhibition' by Robert Buratti, [Art Collector](#), 2 October
 - 'With an \$80k commission, Heather B Swann embarks on the final series of her lifetime' by Celina Lei, [ArtsHub](#), 2 October
- PICA 2024-25 – Alana Hunt's, *A Deceptively Simple Need* opened 17 October 2025
 - 'A Deceptively Simple Need – A strong exhibition that needs more voices' by Jaimi Wright, [Seesaw Magazine](#), Western Australia's Arts Magazine, 23 October
 - Instagram – [Alana walking through the exhibition](#); PICA highlighting [Alana's video work](#).

Grants for Organisations – projects supported

Australian Rural & Regional News

- 'Review – Black, White + Colour by Tim Dobbyn' book review by Aedeon Cremin, [ARR News](#), 20 October
- 'Author interview – Tim Dobbyn' by Aedeon Cremin, [ARR News](#), 20 October

Big Issue Fiction Edition

- 'Big Issue 2025 fiction edition released' [Books+Publishing](#), 3 September
- 'The Big Issue celebrates fresh Australian literary talent in annual Fiction Edition' The Big Issue [website](#), 29 August

Guardian Australia – Australian Book reviews

- 'Last One Out by Jane Harper review – satisfying thriller lacks the heft of her previous novels' [book review by Bec Kavanagh](#), 31 October
- 'A Great Act of Love by Heather Rose review – a compelling, complex tale of convict Australia' [book review by Fiona Wright](#), 17 October
- 'Seed by Bri Lee – this propulsive, fun eco-thriller is the novelist's strongest yet' [book review by Beejay Silcox](#), 10 October
- 'Gravity Let Me Go by Trent Dalton review – ocker crime caper plagued by more than a beleaguered ballsack' [book review by Beejay Silcox](#), 3 October
- 'Cannon by Lee Lai review – a meditative graphic novel laced with horror and humour' [book review by Giselle Au-Nhien Nguyen](#), 26 September
- 'Fierceland by Omar Musa review – poet and rapper's second novel pulses with life' [book review by Seren Heyman-Griffiths](#), 19 September
- 'Desolation by Hossein Asgari review – an accomplished exploration of love, truth and the cruelty of fate' [book review by Catriona Menzies-Pike](#), 12 September
- 'Tenderfoot by Toni Jordan review – coming-of-age tale has the makings of a classic' [book review by Seren Heyman-Griffiths](#), 5 September

- 'Hailstones Fell without Rain by Natalia Figueroa Barroso review – a funny and tender debut' [book review by Seren Heyman-Griffiths](#), 29 August
- 'Arborescence by Rhett Davis review – strange and beguiling novel considers what it means to be human' [book review by Catriona Menzies-Pike](#), 22 August

Magabala Books Daisy Utemorrah Award for Unpublished Indigenous Junior and Young Adult Writing

- 2025 winner: Beau Windon for *Jax Paperweight and the Neon Starway*
- 'Western Australian Premier's Book Awards: States best writers recognised for excellence in storytelling' by Tahnee Graham, [The West Australian](#), 30 August
- Western Australian Premier's Book Awards winners, [State Library of Western Australia](#), 29 August

Overland Journal

- Reviews: 'The art of resistance: The Nightmare Sequence by Omar Sakr and Safdar Ahmed' by Nalini Jacob-Roussety, [Overland](#), 27 October
- "'Revolutionary promiscuity": loving one another in a f*cked up world' by Zahra Stardust, [Overland](#), 3 October
- "'Proud history woven into a prouder fantasy": Nock Loose's radical silliness confronts a culture of noise' by Dan Hogan, [Overland](#), 1 September

Passage Gallery

- Brook Andrew '[Death of a Memorial](#)', 2 October to 7 November

State Library of Queensland - Queensland Literary Awards

[Winners announced 26 September](#)

- 'Award-winning book highlights truth-telling' [Koori Mail](#), Lismore, 8 October
- Queensland Literary Awards 2025 winners announced [Books+Publishing](#), 29 September

Judith Wright Calanthe Award for a Poetry Collection

- *The Oblong Plot* (Chris Andrews, Puncher & Wattmann)

David Unaipon Award for an Emerging Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Writer

- 'Finding Billy Brown' by ES Crismani

Shortlist

- Queensland Literary Awards 2025 shortlists announced [Books+Publishing](#), 9 September

Judith Wright Calanthe Award for a Poetry Collection

- *The Oblong Plot* (Chris Andrews, Puncher & Wattmann)
- *Tinnabulum* (Judith Beveridge, Giramondo)
- *Kangaroo Unbound* (Luke Johnson, Puncher & Wattmann)
- [The Infant Vine](#) (Isabella G Mead, UWAP)
- *Mixed Business* (Alan Wearne, Puncher & Wattmann)

David Unaipon Award for an Emerging Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Writer

- 'Eskos' by Vika Mana
- 'Finding Billy Brown' by ES Crismani
- 'Neurodiverging Into [He]ARTS' by BS Windon

RMIT University - Graphic Storyteller Fellowship

- 'RMIT announces new non/fictionLab Graphic Storyteller Fellowship' [Books+Publishing](#), 2 September
- 'Call for proposals – non/fictionLab Graphic Storyteller Fellowship 2026' RMIT [website](#), 1, September

UNSW Press Bragg Prize for Science Writing

The winner will be announced on 5 November

- 'Bragg science writing prize shortlist announced', [Books+Publishing](#), 14 October

Shortlisted pieces:

- “The Unexpected Poetry of PhD Acknowledgements” by Tabitha Carvan
- “The Night I Accidentally Became a Corpse Flower’s Bedside Manservant” by Angus Dalton
- “‘Earth Poetry’ in the Arctic” by Lucinda Duxbury
- “From Hypnotised to Heretic: Immunising Society Against Misinformation” by Linda McIver
- “A Freediver Finds Belonging Without Breath” by Sally Montgomery
- “Air Conditioning Quietly Changed Australian Life in Just a Few Decades” by James Purtill.