

Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards 2019

Commended, Highly Commended and Shortlisted
Poems

Primary School Judge: Kathryn Apel

Secondary School Judge: Meredith Costain

LOWER PRIMARY

Commended

Name	School	Poem Title	Judge's Comment
Samantha Cutbush	SCEGGS, Darlinghurst, NSW	<i>What Do You Do?</i>	<i>I especially like the first three lines of this.</i>
Annabelle Dellis	Acting Up Drama Academy Cordeaux Heights, NSW	<i>Searching for a Better Future</i>	<i>A thoughtful poem pondering a complex topic.</i>
Ada Hammerton-Lee	Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar School Ivanhoe, VIC	<i>A World of Fun</i>	<i>A dreamy, peaceful poem.</i>
Daisy Henwood	Drummoyne Public School Drummoyne, NSW	<i>Ocean</i>	<i>Small details that are relatable.</i>
Saskia Lockhart	Ascham School Edgecliff, NSW	<i>Ducks (after Frederick William Harvey)</i>	<i>An unexpected (though suitably humorous) poem in response to Frederick William Harvey's first line.</i>
Isabelle Owen	Inglewood Primary School Inglewood, WA	<i>This might sound crazy</i>	<i>This poem just sounds joyous and delightful.</i>
Abby Park	Redeemer Baptist School North Parramatta, NSW	<i>Bees</i>	<i>Great verb choices - and sound effects.</i>
Grace Peters	St George Christian School Hurstville, NSW	<i>A Roller Coaster of Life</i>	<i>Interesting metaphors used to portray the emotions.</i>
Cassie Philippe	Kinross Wolaroi Orange, NSW	<i>The View From My Window</i>	<i>Lovely flow and imagery.</i>
Ellyse Quinnell	Coolamon Central School Coolamon, NSW	<i>Winter</i>	<i>This could be anywhere on a frozen-cold morning.</i>
Olivia Randle	Individual Entry Balgiowlah, NSW	<i>Beyond</i>	<i>Simple and effective.</i>
Stirling Smith	Fitzroy Community School North Fitzroy, VIC	<i>Is There Anyone There?</i>	<i>I love it when a poet takes a risk - that works!</i>
Skye Townend	Oxford Falls Grammar School Oxford Falls, NSW	<i>Stars</i>	<i>That 'moonlight bus'. Lovely! Also, 'rain from the sky'</i>

			and 'swim in the moonbeams'.
Weylen Truong	Oxley Christian College Chirnside Park, VIC	<i>Erased</i>	<i>Clever work.</i>
Banjo Ward	Islington Public School Islington, NSW	<i>The Forest</i>	<i>A snapshot moment.</i>
Georgia Weeks	Acting Up Drama Academy Cordeaux Heights, NSW	<i>Milkshakes</i>	<i>A lively poem to suit a sweet and sugary topic.</i>
Benjamin Yu	Oxley Christian College Chirnside Park, VIC	<i>Noisy Drum</i>	<i>The word choices evoke soft drumming building to a frenzy.</i>

Highly Commended

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Sarai Ades	Beecroft Public School Beecroft, NSW	<i>Big Dream</i>	<i>Good use of language and line-breaks.</i>
Annabel Ashton	Shire Christian School Barden Ridge, NSW	<i>By My Side</i>	<i>Lovely simile and metaphor paired with repetition.</i>
Olivia Bell	Presbyterian Ladies' College Peppermint Grove, WA	<i>Bali</i>	<i>Details that paint a poem.</i>
Olivia Carter	Home School Terrey Hills, NSW	<i>Mask of the Dark</i>	<i>Childlike, joyous and unexpected.</i>
Zahra Dinkciler	Redeemer Baptist School North Parramatta, NSW	<i>Mosquitoes</i>	<i>Great word choices!</i>
Jack Graham	Prouille Catholic Primary School Wahroonga, NSW	<i>Drums!</i>	<i>Rhythm and rhyme with humour.</i>
Ivy Hay	St John's Catholic School Richmond, NSW	<i>Feelings</i>	<i>At first glance, this poem seems simple - but the question posed adds layers.</i>
Griffin Holland	St Clare's Catholic School Burdell, QLD	<i>A Tiny, Spiny Dinosaur</i>	<i>Fun use of rhyme in this lively poem.</i>
Hunter Lamblin	Home School Croydon, VIC	<i>Excitement</i>	<i>Excitement conveyed through playful writing and presentation.</i>
Phoebe Lieu	PLC Sydney Croydon, NSW	<i>Tree Haiku</i>	<i>Beautiful!</i>

Adele Scully	Sydney Distance Education Primary School Newtown, NSW	<i>Broken Hill</i>	<i>Playful alignment (and unexpected emus) strengthen this poem.</i>
Bora Secme	Redeemer Baptist School North Parramatta, NSW	<i>My Day at the Beach</i>	<i>This poem stood out from poems of a similar format because of the humour and the unexpected ending.</i>
Skye Townend	Oxford Falls Grammar School Oxford Falls, NSW	<i>Bubble</i>	<i>The power in this poem lies in that last line. After the build of the imaginary, the contrast between peace and quiet and reality is strong and powerful.</i>
Hamish Wadds	Shire Christian School Barden Ridge, NSW	<i>Cancer</i>	<i>There is so much truth in this poem. Cancer has far- reaching effects. But there is still light. And hope.</i>

Shortlisted

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Allegra Clarke	Individual Entry Kewarra Beach, QLD	<i>Element 87</i>	<i>I frequently say that poetry isn't just for English – and this poem is proof! A tightly constructed poem with controlled use of alignment – and spare text, succinctly defining the chemical element, francium.</i>
Vivian Meates	Kinross Wolaroi Orange, NSW	<i>Autumn Ending (Haiku)</i>	<i>A delightful example of haiku's</i>



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			<i>simplicity and brevity – capturing a moment in nature, with a twist. (And a subtle touch of rhyme.)</i>
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UPPER PRIMARY

Commended

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Cameron Anderson	Oxley Christian College Chirnside Park, VIC	<i>Today</i>	<i>A different take on a much explored topic. Those last four lines especially powerful.</i>
Raynal Badahur	Melton Christian College Melton South, VIC	<i>Parkour</i>	<i>The action and energy of parkour distilled into poetry.</i>
Shai Berkovic	Emanuel School Randwick, NSW	<i>The Red Chair</i>	<i>Tight writing.</i>
Niamh Bowra	Individual Entry Rose Bay, NSW	<i>Rage</i>	<i>Powerful metaphor poem. Love that last line!</i>
Cameron Browning	The Cottage School Bellerive, TAS	<i>Space Time</i>	<i>Lovely rhythm and rhyme in this unique response to the theme.</i>
Iris Jiang	Cherrybrook Public School Cherrybrook, NSW	<i>Rainbow</i>	<i>Each word works to earn its place.</i>
Max Kelly	St Catherine's Catholic College Singleton, NSW	<i>Hunted</i>	<i>I do like the complex simplicity of this poem.</i>
Marissa Mardini	St Charbel's College Punchbowl, NSW	<i>Be That Person</i>	<i>Be all of this!</i>
Matthew Matias	Sutherland Public School Sutherland, NSW	<i>The Game of the Year!</i>	<i>Rule of threes played out to effect with the use of 'Bounce, bounce, bounce' - the perfect end to this poem.</i>
Scarlett Miles	Individual Entry St Ives, NSW	<i>Her Compass</i>	<i>So many layers in this moving poem.</i>
Coreena Marhyz Nicdao	All Saints Catholic Primary School Liverpool, NSW	<i>Is Anybody There?</i>	<i>A powerful poem. Be you - different and unique.</i>
Kaylah Raubenheimer	Lake Joondalup Baptist College Joondalup, WA	<i>The Legend of the Phoenix Feather</i>	<i>Lovely rhythm and rhyme, with tight couplet to denote the turning point.</i>
Jorja Roach	Tamworth Public School Tamworth, NSW	<i>The Dust Storm</i>	<i>So much depth to the imagery in this poem. Wonderful!</i>
Alexander Robinson	Barnier Public School Quakers Hill, NSW	<i>The Woeful War</i>	<i>The italicised lines make me think this poem has been woven around diary accounts. Unexpected language choices make the reader ponder this</i>

			<i>poem.</i>
Pasha Suherman	Chatswood Public School Chatswood, NSW	<i>Insoluble Task</i>	<i>A clever metapoem with lovely use of language and poetic devices.</i>
Georgia Thurling	The Cottage School Bellerive, TAS	<i>Kennings</i>	<i>A very clever kenning poem. Love the use of rhyme!</i>
Annika Trembath	Individual Entry Dromedary, TAS	<i>Death to the Goats (Lying Still)</i>	<i>Effective use of rhyme. The brother's response gave this poem heart.</i>
Xanthia Valacos	Trinity Catholic Primary School Narre Warren South, VIC	<i>Trees (Haiku)</i>	<i>Lovely haiku!</i>
Olivia Valentine	Trinity Catholic Primary School Narre Warren South, VIC	<i>Dorothea Mackellar</i>	<i>Pondering a big change with a mix of emotions.</i>
Jasmine Way	Wyong Christian Community School Wyong, NSW	<i>Giant Canoes</i>	<i>Perspective and quiet observations make this poem sing.</i>

Highly Commended

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Zoe Adams	Trinity Catholic Primary School Narre Warren South, VIC	<i>I'm Different</i>	<i>This poem keeps taking unexpected turns; 'becloud' - a new word to me (used correctly).</i>
Koko-Rose Carasso	Nambour Christian College Nambour, QLD	<i>Freedom</i>	<i>Good use of line breaks to lead the reader through this poem.</i>
Audrey Clark	Penrith Anglican College Orchard Hills, NSW	<i>The Question</i>	<i>Clever use of the acrostic format - and the competition theme.</i>
Lillianna Filleul	Oxley Christian College Chirnside Park, VIC	<i>A Marathon of my Own</i>	<i>I was exhausted after racing this poem. Well done.</i>
Xavier Kennedy	Newcastle East Public School The Hill, NSW	<i>The Best Part of Me – A Slam Poem</i>	<i>Slamming so much into this poem that nails the last line!</i>
Harper Klein	Individual Entry Breakfast Point, NSW	<i>The Lost Refugee</i>	<i>The switch between cuddling little sister and 'little sister held me near' give this emotive poem greater poignancy.</i>
Genevieve Lee-Chan	Lowther Hall Anglican Grammar School	<i>Is Anybody Out There?</i>	<i>The last stanza grounds this poem.</i>

	Essendon, VIC		
Isla Mannolini	Presbyterian Ladies' College Peppermint Grove, WA	<i>Cyclone</i>	<i>Clever juxtaposition of memories and weather events leading to devastation - and hope.</i>
Rowen Middendorf	The Cottage School Bellerive, TAS	<i>Tetractys</i>	<i>A fine tetractys! One extra suitable on the return 10 syllable line. Suggest 'invite' - not 'inviting'. (Other option is to cut 'its'.) Also some punctuation needed to smooth the read. But well done!</i>
Scarlett Miles	Individual Entry St Ives, NSW	<i>Friend</i>	<i>Feelings conveyed well in this poem that rhymes for a reason.</i>
Larisa Moulds	Central Coast Steiner School Fountaindale, NSW	<i>Wild Horses</i>	<i>Lovely use of line breaks and a gorgeous simile to close.</i>
Rory Munn	Individual Entry Oxford, NSW	<i>Demeter's Daughter</i>	<i>Lovely use of repetition in a poem that drew me back in time to Greek mythology.</i>
Hugh Pockley	Newington College, Wyvern House Preparatory School Stanmore, NSW	<i>That School in Villers-Bretonneux</i>	<i>Urgency conveyed through short lines and repetition.</i>
Finn Rushe	Individual Entry Mosman, NSW	<i>Battle for Souls</i>	<i>Mature writing for one so young.</i>
Abi Salter	Yarraville West Primary School Melbourne, VIC	<i>Easter</i>	<i>The subtlety in these small details draws the reader into the experience. Lovely.</i>
Gabriella Solomon	Emanuel School Randwick, NSW	<i>Hope</i>	<i>Clever contrasts make this poem shine.</i>
Luke Sultana	Sydney School of English Burwood, NSW	<i>A Blissful Futility</i>	<i>Charged with emotion and tight, descriptive writing.</i>
Luke Suter	Tamworth Public School Tamworth, NSW	<i>The Terrors of War</i>	<i>A moving poem that takes a different perspective when reflecting on war.</i>
Edward Williams	Sydney Grammar School Edgecliff Paddington, NSW	<i>Spring</i>	<i>This poem is clever! Personifying spring. I particularly like 'Spring's insistence made the fruit juicy' - but there was so much to like!</i>
Sasha Zolotavkina	Individual Entry Camberwell, VIC	<i>Jezebell and her Sir</i>	<i>Transports the reader to another era through language and structure.</i>

Shortlisted

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Milena Boller	Yarraville West Primary School Melbourne, VIC	<i>Vanity</i>	<i>I am in awe of the sustained complexity in this poem, with clever wordplay and personification of the concept of vanity. Powerful!</i>
Lachlan Clyne	The Cottage School Bellerive, TAS	<i>"I am from ..."</i>	<i>This 'I Am From...' poem trips off your tongue creating a lively kaleidoscope of sensory images.</i>
Celeste Georgiou	SCEGGS Darlinghurst, NSW	<i>The sadness drowns me (VILLANELLE)</i>	<i>A villanelle is a complex form to write, using repeating lines to effect without sounding ... repetitive.</i>

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LEARNING ASSISTANCE PRIMARY

Commended

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Arjonil Mukherjee	Cherrybrook Public School Cherrybrook, NSW	<i>The Poisonous Pufferfish</i>	<i>I particularly liked the use of alliteration in this Kenning poem.</i>
Jorden Wu	Redeemer Baptist School North Parramatta, NSW	<i>Audis*</i>	<i>Short sharp lines work well to pace this poem.</i>

Highly Commended

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Julian Nissan	Redeemer Baptist School North Parramatta, NSW	<i>Waterfall</i>	<i>Intentional word choices that create the waterfall image. I especially like; crash, crush.</i>
Lily-Li (Bonnie) Goldsmith	Home School Perth, WA	<i>Rubix Cube</i>	<i>Clever Rubix cube comparison to start this insightful heart-poem.</i>

Shortlisted

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Nathan Burns	Redeemer Baptist School North Parramatta, NSW	<i>The Fossil</i>	<i>A unique response to the theme 'Is There Anybody There?'</i>
Obani Ohunayo	Redeemer Baptist School North Parramatta, NSW	<i>Goal!</i>	<i>So much energy and action in this poem. Lovely lively rhythm.</i>



DAVID MAHER AWARD

Highly Commended

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Harris Burke	Rowena Public School Rowena, NSW	<i>Life of Being Bullied</i>	<i>A strong start to this poem about bullying.</i>

Shortlisted

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Sam Cau	Yetman Public School Yetman, NSW	<i>Countryside Wonders</i>	<i>Exploring the senses in familiar environment. (I type this comment with a splinter in my finger – but alas, it doesn't feel gentle!)</i>

JUNIOR SECONDARY

Commended

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Billy Cameron	Individual Entry Canyonleigh, NSW	<i>Clinking Chains</i>	<i>A well-structured poem with a sophisticated rhyming scheme and a powerful message.</i>
Charlie Carroll	Individual Entry Sydney, NSW	<i>Tornado</i>	<i>A deceptively simple poem employing clever use of metaphor.</i>
Laila Chequer De Souza	St Michael's Collegiate Hobart, TAS	<i>Carriage</i>	<i>A poignant tale of love and loss, cleverly constructed.</i>
Lazarus Gallagher	Centralian Middle School Alice Springs, NT	<i>Areyounga</i>	<i>A beautifully-expressed ode to heritage.</i>
Sol Kirkman	Darwin Middle School Parap, NT	<i>Snow Globe</i>	<i>The rising tension in this poem sweeps the reader along towards its intriguing conclusion.</i>
Finn McRae	Individual Entry Coburg, VIC	<i>LightPole</i>	<i>An intriguing poem with an evocative and eerie atmosphere.</i>
Isabella Pettingill	St Mary's Anglican Girls School Karrinyup, WA	<i>Untitled</i>	<i>A clever poem that draws you in with its use of irony. The conclusion made me laugh out loud!</i>
Olivia Tilley	Sunshine Coast Grammar School Forest Glen, QLD	<i>Plastic Dinosaurs and Poetry Writing</i>	<i>A thoughtful and interesting examination of the way the mind works.</i>
Charlotte Waterland	Individual Entry Wollstonecraft, NSW	<i>It's Our Planet, It's Our Problem</i>	<i>A well-constructed rhythm and strong message combine to make this poem an anthem for our times.</i>
Rune Chi Zhao	Individual Entry Stonyfell, SA	<i>A Day of Life</i>	<i>A clever structure and interesting take on the cyclical nature of life.</i>

Highly Commended

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Finn Bernstone Harris	Individual Entry Newtown, NSW	<i>Belong</i>	<i>The dual point of view and lush complex imagery employed here leaves the reader with much to</i>

			<i>consider.</i>
Zara Casimaty	St Michael's Collegiate Hobart, TAS	<i>It's Been Done Before</i>	<i>A clever use of personification with some powerful imagery and a clear and pressing message.</i>
Ruby Cooney	SCEGGS Darlinghurst, NSW	<i>Paper Stars</i>	<i>Lush imagery and a clever structure combine to form a delightful and thoughtful description of a public place.</i>
Sammie Dawson	SCEGGS Darlinghurst, NSW	<i>In the Crater</i>	<i>A thoughtful poem with some strong imagery and a powerful message to look after our wildlife.</i>
Sienna Exton-Hussain	Tarremah Steiner School Huntingfield, TAS	<i>Ammunition</i>	<i>Although short, this poem is packed with power. Beautifully controlled and executed.</i>
Lucia Gelonesi	Individual Entry Darlinghurst, NSW	<i>Sicilian Music Box (for my grandmother)</i>	<i>A thoughtful, well-observed poem with clever and original imagery.</i>
Georgia McLeod	Seymour College Glen Osmond, SA	<i>The Water Thieves</i>	<i>A deceptively simple poem, well observed and perfectly formed.</i>
Aanya Phansalkar	Baulkham Hills High School Baulkham Hills, NSW	<i>Love Yourself</i>	<i>A highly original poem with clever imagery and a powerful message.</i>
Jarrah Steinberg	Darwin Middle School Parap, NT	<i>Clockwork Aberration</i>	<i>A clever poem with complex ideas and rhyming scheme.</i>
Isabella Tjandra	Applecross Senior High School Ardross, WA	<i>A Street Story</i>	<i>A well-observed poem with a clever twist. Some great imagery here!</i>

Shortlisted

Name	School	Poem Title	Judge's Comment
Munira Tabassum Ahmed	Baulkham Hills High School Baulkham Hills, NSW	<i>The Sun Was Taught To Glow</i>	<i>I love the way Munira bookends her poem with the startling (pop!) and Man falling in and out of love with the Sun, and all the powerful imagery in between. A stunning piece of writing.</i>
Hannah Czarnecki	Kyogle High School Kyogle, NSW	<i>Weaving the Sky</i>	<i>Colour – sumptuous and rich – is at the heart of this well-observed poem, brimming with sensory details such as 'the click click clacketty of off white keys', 'golden sun butter' and 'slivers that shiver'.</i>



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Lucia Gelonesi	Individual Entry Darlinghurst, NSW	<i>Mothers as Others</i>	<i>This is a cracker of a poem – oozing with confidence and clever use of metaphor. A worthy contender.</i>
Portia Hoole	Brisbane School of Distance Education Coorparoo, QLD	<i>softly burning silence</i>	<i>A quietly powerful account of unrequited attraction. Small, well-observed details build to form a mesmerising whole.</i>
Tara Lloyd	Deloraine High School Deloraine, TAS	<i>Winter's War</i>	<i>A triumphant poem, sparkling with carefully planned imagery. Quietly disturbing and unique.</i>

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SENIOR SECONDARY

Commended

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Chil Chipkiewicz Guedez	Suzanne Cory High School Werribee, VIC	<i>On the riverbank</i>	<i>A thoughtful poem with startlingly original imagery.</i>
Dean Dalziel	One School Orange, NSW	<i>Aftermath</i>	<i>A rollicking example of bush poetry, with striking imagery.</i>
Sarah Enzenhofer	Brisbane School of Distance Education Coorparoo, QLD	<i>The Epoch, or An Elegy for an Era Passed</i>	<i>A richly-imagined ode to a time long since passed.</i>
Claudia Hayman	Individual Entry Manly, NSW	<i>Little Arrow Of Mine</i>	<i>A heartfelt ode to an unborn child - with clever use of metaphor.</i>
Saanjana Kapoor	Individual Entry Seabrook, VIC	<i>my favourite sweater</i>	<i>A highly emotive poem, thoughtfully observed, with a strong ending.</i>
Duy Quang Mai	Individual Entry Croydon, NSW	<i>Rememory</i>	<i>A beautifully-constructed ode to heritage and family.</i>
Eliza Murray	Presbyterian Ladies' College Peppermint Grove, WA	<i>Fresh Air</i>	<i>A poignant poem about yearning, beautifully observed.</i>
Marion Scott	St Michael's Collegiate Hobart, TAS	<i>Pillans Lake</i>	<i>A wonderfully-observed description of a place that obviously has special meaning to the poet.</i>
Mia Solomon	Ravenswood School for Girls Gordon, NSW	<i>Tarmac Waves</i>	<i>A cleverly-constructed poem with a twist at the end.</i>
Lena Tong	Suzanne Cory High School Werribee, VIC	<i>The Grind</i>	<i>A well-constructed poem with original and evocative imagery.</i>
Gloria Yu	Carey Baptist Grammar School Melbourne, VIC	<i>Compartmentalise</i>	<i>A cleverly-constructed and thoughtful piece, leaving much to dwell on.</i>

Highly Commended

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Anna Cox	Applecross Senior High	<i>Mother</i>	<i>Brimming with poetic devices, this</i>

	School Ardross, WA		<i>poem presents a real understanding of the devastation that ageing and loss can bring.</i>
Finlae Gibb	Individual Entry Ashbury, VIC	<i>Sunset on Suburbia</i>	<i>Impressive and highly original use of colour to describe the sunset.</i>
Paris Kay	Presbyterian Ladies' College Peppermint Grove, WA	<i>The whispers from beneath</i>	<i>The poem slowly builds, layer by intriguing layer, until all is laid bare in the last line. Clever construction.</i>
Enling Liao	Home School Lyneham, ACT	<i>Ballad of Mud and Sea</i>	<i>Evocative imagery placing the reader firmly at the scene. A joy to read.</i>
Eloisa Malet	Presbyterian Ladies' College Peppermint Grove, WA	<i>The tree and the tar</i>	<i>Nightmarish, evocative imagery that builds to form a dark whole.</i>
Amelia Neylon	Individual Entry West Hobart, TAS	<i>Rainbow</i>	<i>An impassioned plea to save the planet, with some highly original imagery to help prove the point.</i>
Amy Tan	Merewether High School Broadmeadow, NSW	<i>Blue</i>	<i>A heart-wrenching description of a painful journey, beautifully imagined.</i>
Lauren (Lizzie) Thompson	Queensland Academy For Creative Industries Kelvin Grove, QLD	<i>Aurora</i>	<i>A perfectly-formed love song from daughter to mother. Highly original in its use of imagery.</i>

Shortlisted

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Alexandra Ayers	Presbyterian Ladies' College Peppermint Grove, WA	<i>Acres of Fenceline</i>	<i>Alexandra's carefully chosen words and images – 'forever steel pickets speckled the horizon' and 'bone on steel ringing across paddocks' – paint a poignant picture of rural life.</i>
Alexandra Ayers	Presbyterian Ladies' College Peppermint Grove, WA	<i>Speaking Yolngu</i>	<i>A feast for the senses, Alexandra's powerful poem slowly builds a threatening, sultry atmosphere where violence reigns. A solid contender signifying a poet with a bright future.</i>
Saanjana Kapoor	Individual Entry Seabrook, VIC	<i>shirtsleeves</i>	<i>There were many poems entered this year about relationships with</i>

			<i>family or friends but this was one of the strongest. Deceptively simple, it delivers a punch right to the heart. Great writing, Saanjana.</i>
Laura Zhang	Ravenswood School for Girls Gordon, NSW	<i>A definition of him</i>	<i>A painfully honest account of a troubled relationship, with exquisite use of language and form from a fine writer. Congratulations, Laura.</i>

LEARNING ASSISTANCE SECONDARY

Commended

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Isabella Burns	Redeemer Baptist School North Parramatta, NSW	<i>Hope</i>	<i>A thoughtful summary of an ongoing problem.</i>
Ben Moir	Cherrybrook Public School Cherrybrook, NSW	<i>The Megalodon</i>	<i>Clever word combinations build to a well-rounded description.</i>
Kartik Verma	Redeemer Baptist School North Parramatta, NSW	<i>The Pinnacles</i>	<i>A clever rhyming scheme in a poem with a killer last line!</i>

Highly Commended

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Poem Title</u>	<u>Judge's Comment</u>
Talanah Allwood	Brisbane School of Distance Education Coorparoo, QLD	<i>Four paws and a heart</i>	<i>The emotion comes through in this heart-felt ode to animals in distress.</i>
Bemnet Asrat	Redeemer Baptist School North Parramatta, NSW	<i>Sydney New Year</i>	<i>Delightful imagery and a clever structure combine in a celebratory poem.</i>
Andrew Zhao	Redeemer Baptist School	<i>Diving in the Sea</i>	<i>Evocative imagery paints a picture of a place obviously dear</i>

	North Parramatta, NSW		<i>to the poet's heart.</i>
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Shortlisted

Name	School	Poem Title	Judge's Comment
Joseph Lee	Redeemer Baptist School North Parramatta, NSW	<i>Rescue from Above</i>	<i>Strong imagery adds to the suspense in this heart-stopping description of a rescue</i>
Pierre Hughes	Redeemer Baptist School North Parramatta, NSW	<i>Jonah Lomu - The force to be reckoned with</i>	<i>A well-constructed memoir featuring some memorable imagery.</i>

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PRIMARY SCHOOLS' AWARD

Commended

- Ravenswood School for Girls, NSW - lots (of longer) developed poems there had spark
- Oxley Christian College, VIC – with standout poetry in both Lower and Upper Primary
- Trinity Catholic Primary School, VIC – capture the essence of haiku
- Cherrybrook Public School, NSW – Cinquains that wove words into poetry
- Tamworth Public School, NSW - imagery and sensory poems - mostly to a theme about the wind.
- Redeemer Baptist, NSW

SECONDARY SCHOOLS' AWARD

Commended

- Ravenswood School for Girls, NSW
- St Michael's Collegiate, TAS
- Baulkham Hills High School, NSW
- SCEGGS Darlinghurst, NSW
- Darwin Middle School, NT
- Redeemer Baptist School, NSW