



The 2010 NZSA/Pindar Publishing Prize

Background

The NZSA/Pindar Publishing Prize is designed to create a publishing opportunity for a New Zealand writer. Sponsored by Pindar NZ, *The New Zealand Herald*, Whitcoulls and AstraPrint, this unique new award is for an unpublished manuscript which will be taken through to a published form and offered for sale nationwide. Pindar NZ will offer production services, AstraPrint will offer printing, *The New Zealand Herald* (APN NZ Limited) will provide marketing and editorial support and Whitcoulls will make the published book available in their branches nationwide. This award is supported by Creative New Zealand, and administered by the New Zealand Society of Authors (NZSA).

Aim of the Award

Offered for the first time in 2010, the purpose of this award is to create an opportunity for an author to publish their work to a professional standard and to offer it for sale through trade channels in New Zealand. The award also aims to recognise excellence in creative writing and create a launching pad for a writer's career.

Key Dates

Applications open	December 2009
Applications close	30 March 2010
Shortlist announced	30 April 2010
Online voting begins	1 May 2010
Online voting closes	30 May 2010
Winner announced	15 June 2010
Book launch	August 2010

1. The Award

- 1.1 The award is the publication of one previously unpublished manuscript in fiction, non-fiction, short fiction or poetry. The work will be professionally edited, designed, printed and distributed. The award is valued at over \$35,000.
- 1.2 A maximum of 20 images will be allowed in any publication and must be supplied by the winning author in digital format for scanning purposes – 300dpi and over.
- 1.3 A shortlist of five manuscripts will be announced on **30 April 2010** and a sample of each manuscript will be available for readers, who will vote on which manuscript they think should win. Instructions for voting will be posted on the New Zealand Society of Authors website (www.authors.org.nz) throughout the online voting period from 30 April to 30 May 2010. One vote per email address will be allowed. An overall Winner will be announced on **15 June 2010**.
- 1.4 The Winner will be chosen through 40% online voting and 60% input from the judging panel. The book will be launched during **August 2010**. The Winner will be required to attend the launch. Details TBC.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1 Entries are open for any previously unpublished manuscript in fiction, non-fiction, short fiction or poetry.
- 2.2 All manuscripts entered must have reached a publishable level.
- 2.3 Manuscripts must be finished by **30 April 2010**.
- 2.4 Manuscripts must be the author's own original work and not previously commercially published. A proportion of the content may have been previously published in a literary journal or magazine, as long as it is no more than 10% of the manuscript as a whole, except in the short story and poetry genres, where the collection (as a whole) must not have been commercially published. For the purpose of this competition, previously commercially published material includes the publication or distribution of the entry in part or whole, in paper

or electronic format, or in any other medium. This does not include a chapter excerpt on an author's website, subject to the conditions that: (i) the excerpt is the only text that exists for public viewing; (ii) the excerpt is not for sale to the public, and (iii) the number of words in the excerpt does not exceed 10% of the total number of words in the work as a whole.

- 2.5 Completed novel, non-fiction or short story manuscripts must be between 30,000 and 120,000 words in length; poetry collections between 5,000 and 25,000 words. Manuscripts with a word count below or above these restrictions will not be considered.
- 2.6 Rewrites of previously commercially published work are not eligible for entry.
- 2.7 Authors are required to declare any related publications and/or editions for each manuscript submitted (including other languages, overseas and/or self-published editions)
- 2.8 The final decision on eligibility of any submission rests with the Awards Administrators of NZSA and Pindar NZ. Where a manuscript is initially accepted as eligible by the Administrators but then determined to be ineligible due to the author's misinterpretation of the eligibility criteria and/or conditions of entry and/or failure to disclose relevant information, the author will be liable for any costs associated with rectifying the situation.
- 2.9 Authors must be New Zealand citizens by birth, naturalisation or immigration or have had a permanent Residence Permit in this country for a period of at least three years immediately prior to the application.
- 2.10 Employees of APN NZ Limited, NZSA, Pindar NZ, Whitcoulls, AstraPrint, or any other agencies, suppliers or retailers associated with this promotion and their immediate family members are not eligible to enter.

3. Conditions of Entry

- 3.1 Applications must be received by **30 March 2010**. Any application received after that date will not be considered.
- 3.2 To be valid, entries must include:
 - a separate application completed for each manuscript.
 - copies of a writing sample, for example, the first two chapters of a novel; two short stories; or 15 poems – without the author details (10–15 pages).
 - copies of a synopsis or outline of the work (1–2 pages), without the author's details.
- 3.3 Name and address details must appear **only** on the application form, as the selection process is anonymous. Any sample of writing, synopsis or manuscript submitted with the author's details on will be excluded.
- 3.4 Applications must be in hard copy only – no faxed or emailed applications will be accepted.
- 3.5 Application material (including manuscripts) will not be returned.
- 3.6 Each Entrant must keep a copy of the manuscript for his/her own protection. NZSA, Pindar NZ, AstraPrint, and APN NZ Limited will not be responsible for lost, stolen, or mislaid manuscripts.
- 3.7 If in the opinion of the judging panel no entry is worthy of the award it will not be given. The decision of the judging panel is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- 3.8 Terms and conditions of entry are final and non-negotiable.

4. Finalists and Winning Title

- 4.1 A shortlist of five entries will be announced on **30 April 2010**.
- 4.2 Shortlisted authors will be required to submit within seven working days of notification:
 - three hard copies of their full manuscript in a clean format: typed in a 12pt legible typeface, double-spaced on one side of an A4 sheet.
 - a recent photograph and short writing biography, submitted electronically to programmes@nzauthors.org.nz
 - an electronic copy (Word document) of the writing sample that was **submitted with the application** to programmes@nzauthors.org.nz. Other samples of the work will not be accepted.
- 4.3 Shortlisted authors must be available for interview as required.
- 4.4 The Winner will be announced on **15 June 2010**.
- 4.5 The winning manuscript will be edited by a professional editor chosen by NZSA. The recipient of the award must be prepared to accept editorial advice concerning their manuscript.
- 4.6 A fair contract, based on industry standards, will be offered to the winning author. If for any reason the recipient is not prepared to accept the contract, the award will be given to the second shortlisted manuscript.
- 4.7 The Prize must be acknowledged in any future publicity relating to the publication.

- 4.8 A consolation prize will be awarded to the second runner up.
- 4.9 The published book will only be available in Whitcoulls branches.
- 4.10 Winning author must be present at the launch in Auckland in **August 2010** with the exception of extreme unforeseen circumstances.
- 4.11 Travel expenses (including airfares and accommodation) of the winning author attending the launch will be covered by the sponsors.
- 4.12 The recipient must also be willing and able to participate in any reasonable publicity relating to the award.
- 4.13 The author will retain copyright of their work.

5. Judging Panel

- 5.1 The judging panel will consist of three people – a Pindar NZ representative, an NZSA representative and a representative from APN NZ Limited.

6. General Judging Criteria

- 6.2 The main purpose of this award is to provide an opportunity for an author showing potential in their genre to be professional published.
- 6.3 Judges will consider the following criteria as general guidelines:
 - excellence of writing
 - use of language
 - interpretation and style of writing
 - level of interest to the general public of the subject matter
 - publishability
 - potential commercial success of the book.
- 6.4 Judges will take into consideration any other factors they deem appropriate.

7. How to Enter

- 7.1 Entries will be called for from **December 2009** and will close on **30 March 2010**. Incomplete applications or applications received after 30 March will not be considered.
- 7.2 Manuscripts, synopsis or sample writing containing the author's details will not be considered.
- 7.3 Please read the eligibility criteria and conditions of entry carefully before submitting.
- 7.4 Applications must include:
 - the completed application form
 - three typed copies of a synopsis of the project (1-2 pages) **placing the sample writing in context** and without the author details
 - three copies of a sample of writing from the manuscript without the author details (10–15 pages).
- 7.5 Queries regarding the award are to be directed to programmes@nzauthors.org.nz
- 7.6 Please carefully pack and send your entry to:
NZSA/Pindar Publishing Prize
PO Box 7701
Wellesley Street
Auckland 1141

8. Liability

- 8.1 APN NZ Limited, NZSA, Pindar NZ, Whitcoulls, and AstraPrint are not liable for any loss, damage, or injury (including without limitation indirect or consequential loss) suffered by any person in connection with the promotion or any prize, except for any liability under the Consumer Guarantees Act 1993 or other liability that cannot be excluded by law.
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9. Privacy

- 9.1 All entries remain the property of APN NZ Limited, NZSA, Pindar NZ, Whitcoulls, and AstraPrint. Copyright in the work remains with the author.
- 9.2 All personal information will be collected, stored and used by these companies in accordance with the Privacy Act 1993. APN NZ Limited, NZSA, Pindar NZ, Whitcoulls, and AstraPrint may use Entrants or Nominees personal information supplied in Entries to conduct this competition.
- 9.3 Nominees, Entrants or anybody else has the right to access, and request correction of, any personal information held by APN NZ Limited, NZSA, Pindar NZ, Whitcoulls, and AstraPrint.
- 9.4 By entering the Competition, each Entrant consents to the disclosure of any information submitted in the Entry to all the promotional partners. Any personal information disclosed to APN NZ Limited, NZSA, Pindar NZ, Whitcoulls, and AstraPrint will be treated in accordance with their Privacy Policy.