

The Horne Prize 2020: celebrating exceptional narrative nonfiction

Presented by Aesop and The Saturday Paper

Aesop and *The Saturday Paper* are pleased to announce that entries for The Horne Prize are now open. Valued at \$15,000, the prize will be presented in early December for an original essay of up to 3000 words addressing a significant aspect of contemporary Australian life.

This year's judging panel comprises Maddison Connaughton, editor of *The Saturday Paper*; Suzanne Santos, Aesop's chief customer officer; Wiradjuri author Tara June Winch; novelist and poet Nam Le; and writer and journalist Anna Krien.

Submissions are welcome until midnight on Monday, November 9. A shortlist will be announced on December 7, followed by the winner on December 12.

The Horne Prize was established in 2016, named for the late Donald Horne AO, whose contribution to Australian literature and academia left an indelible legacy on public discourse. The inaugural recipient was Anna Spargo-Ryan for her essay *The suicide gene*. In 2017, Dr Kerry Goldsworthy was awarded the prize for *The limit of the world*. The 2018 winner was Daniel James, for *Ten more days*; last year, the prize was awarded to Rachael Leber for *Diary of a wildlife carer*, which the judges described as "a work of quiet power... thoughtfully rendered, restrained, but ultimately devastating."

In announcing the 2020 prize, Maddison Connaughton said: "When I think about everything that has happened since we awarded last year's Horne Prize, my head spins slightly. The world has changed so much. But great Horne Prize essays must – through their author's thoughtful curiosity, research, reportage and skilful writing – help make sense of the forces shaping and reshaping our lives and our country. This year, that task, ever important, is even more necessary."

Suzanne Santos commented: "We have now seen four highly accomplished essays and their writers find new audiences through The Horne Prize; and we look forward to all that this fifth iteration will bring. Events of the year to date have made it clear that long-form nonfiction remains vital to public discourse about matters of import, and it remains our privilege to partner with *The Saturday Paper* in promoting this literary form and honouring a public intellectual of exceptional stature."

While its primary focus is skin care, Aesop is well known for long-term engagement with culture and the arts; other literary partners include *The Paris Review* and numerous writers' festivals, both local and international.

Prospective entrants to The Horne Prize can read terms, conditions and guidelines, make enquiries and submit their work at thehorneprize.com.au



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