

2009 Toolangi Festival Poetry Competition Rules.

1. Entries for the 2009 Toolangi Festival Poetry competition close on 10th October 2009. No late entries will be accepted.

2. There will be 6 contestant categories:

2.1 Primary School: Preps – Grade 6

2.2 Secondary Schools: Year 7 – 12

2.3 Contestants of an age between 16 years old and 18 years old on the first day of the calendar year of the current competition

2.4 Contestants open.

2.5 Bushfire poems by Adults or Children

2.6 Poems written for Children by Adults

3. Prizes

3.1 Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third in each category.

3.2 Prizes will be awarded on Saturday 24th October 2009. Participants must be available on the day to accept their prize

4. Entries will be accepted from contestants anywhere in Australia.

5. A maximum of three entries will be accepted from each contestant.

6. Entries

6.1 Each category of poetry entered, must be accompanied by a completed entry form

6.2 All junior categories free entry

6.2 Open category entries \$5 per poem / Children \$2 per poem. Cheques made out in favour of Toolangi District Community House (Toolangi Festival).

7. Entries must be original works. They must not exceed 81 lines in length and preferably be in the style of C.J. Dennis.

8. The length of a poem shall not be taken into account when evaluating its merit. A poem of fifty words or less has equal chance of winning to poems of 1,000 words.

9. Entries should be written between 1st September 2008 and 1st October 2009. The aim of the competition is to encourage the activity of writing that relates to Toolangi's history, activities, environment and personalities. Please enter the spirit of the contest and do not submit previously written material.

10. Entries must be in English on A4 paper, double-spaced with numbered pages. Where possible, we would also appreciate receiving an electronic version of the entry. Hand-written poetry will be accepted, provided that they are clearly legible.

11. The name of the entrant must not appear on any page of the submitted poetry.

12. Each entrant must include a brief biography with each entry. This should be from 30 to 50 words long and will be published with each winning entry.

13. To enable entries to be returned plus a receipt, entrants must include a stamped self-addressed envelope with each poem entered.

14. Copyright for all poetry entered shall be retained by the individual authors who submitted the work. However, by entering the competition, authors give permission for their work to be included in a published book relating to the Toolangi Festival.

15. The publisher reserves the right to edit all winning entries. This editing will be confined to spelling and punctuation.

16. The judges decision shall be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Example of Biography Required.

Joe Bloggs has lived all his life in Toolangi. He went to school in Healesville and currently works at the local nursery.. This is his first published poem. He has a keen interest in bush walking and this is evident in his work.