

EMERGING WRITERS' FESTIVAL

5–15 September 2024

emergingwritersfestival.org.au



The Emerging Writers' Festival work, learn and play largely on the land of the Kulin nation, and pay our respects to their Elders, past and present.

EWF celebrates the history and creativity of the world's oldest living culture.



MESSAGES

Message from the Artistic Director

Since 2003, Emerging Writers' Festival has had the privilege of platforming and nurturing the vast and talented community of writers across this continent. A festival of singularity, EWF is a place where creative connections are made, new stories are dreamt up, and radical futures are imagined. Every year, artists and arts workers of all forms and experiences come together at this festival to remind us that storytelling is, at best: resistance, expression, preservation, connection, and truth telling. We are blown away by the immense talent and righteous care of our community again and again.

For this, our 21st festival, we emerge from the cocoon of the winter months to greet spring. With this program, we offer you creative literary performances, opportunities to learn from some of the most exciting writers around, and spaces dedicated to honing your craft. We will look at how language and misinformation are used as tools of oppression, alongside interrogating the place that storytelling, in all its myriad forms, has in liberation. We will play across forms, connect as a community, and celebrate with friends old and new.

We are excited to share this new season of Emerging Writers' Festival with you.

See you in Spring.

Ruby-Rose Pivet-Marsh
Artistic Director

Minister for Creative Industries

Happy 21st birthday to the Emerging Writers' Festival! The Allan Labor Government is proud to back this festival of firsts which explores new voices and new worlds across all forms of storytelling.

This year's milestone program brings together 150 artists, in 45 events. It's an opportunity for fresh talent, including writers, publishers and creative workers, to connect with industry leaders and audiences alike and it provides invaluable professional development opportunities for writers kickstarting their careers.

Congratulations to the festival team and all participants for bringing us this exciting program which celebrates our state's flourishing literary scene, Melbourne's status as a UNESCO City of Literature and Victoria's reputation as the creative state.

The Hon. Colin Brooks MP
Minister for Creative Industries



Make the most of EWF24!

At the Emerging Writers' Festival, I...

<p>Got inspired to start a new project</p>	<p>Celebrated program launch with EWF</p>	<p>Said hi to someone new</p>
<p>Brought along a friend</p>	<p>Went to the National Writers' Conference</p>	<p>Tagged EWF on socials</p>
<p>Checked out an EWF digital project</p>	<p>Connected with another writer</p>	<p>Saw a new artist perform</p>

Opening Night:

LIB[ERA]TION (Curated by Mackenzie Lee)

Globally and on this very continent, First Nations peoples continue to resist colonialism and its weapons. Through deep community care, activism, and the power imbued in storytelling, First Nations writers and artists have long imagined futures that welcome revolution.

To mark the opening of EWF24, Guest Curator Mackenzie Lee asks: What does an Era of Liberation look like, and how is writing both a tool and an act of liberation, for the self and the collective?

Join these storytellers as they imagine what an Era of Liberation means for the present and beyond.

WITH: Darcy Hytt, Ari Mills, Maggie Knight-Williams, Mackenzie Lee & moirra

WHEN: Thursday, 5 September, 7pm

WHERE: narm ngarrgu Library

PRICE: Free (bookings essential)

ACCESS: Auslan interpreted , Wheelchair accessible 

Closing Night:

BANQUET

Gather beneath stained glass for the final event of EWF24: a spring fantasy banquet.

This is your invitation to dress up and join us at the communal table for an evening of food, storytelling, and fantasy. Enjoy ethereal performances, bask in shared dreams for the future, and gather with EWF one last time to dance the night away.

WITH: Tigest Girma, Thabani Thsuma, Lara Chamas, Mohamed Chamas, and more

WHEN: Sunday, 15 September, 7pm

WHERE: Chapter House

ACCESS: Auslan interpreted , Wheelchair accessible 



National Writers' Conference

In 2024, The National Writers' Conference returns to The Wheeler Centre for a weekend of professional and creative development. Expect to hear from publishing professionals, fellow emerging writers, and virtuosos in the literary field. Audiences will walk away with new friends, professional contacts, and a plethora of fresh knowledge and inspiration.

Day One: Craft

Hear from the pioneers and rising stars of literary craft and delve deep into everything that makes up a writing practice.

Craft is the touchstone of any writing practice. It includes one's voice and imagination, as well as the nitty gritty of technique, skill, and committing to a routine. Settle in for deep discussions about craft, ranging from memoir and autofiction, to research and archive use, world-building, and even some guided time to work on your own craft.

WHEN: Saturday, 7 September, 11am-5pm
WITH: Kghsak Akec, Katherine Brabon, Dominic Gordon, Samah Sabawi and more
WHERE: The Wheeler Centre & online
PRICE: \$100/\$80 Concession/\$50 First Nations Tix
ACCESS: Wheelchair accessible ♿, Auslan interpretation and live captioning available on request

Day Two: Industry

Join experts of the industry as they equip you with the most up to date, hands-on advice and methods for carving successful paths to publication and maintaining healthy writing careers.

The second day of the NWC demystifies what often feels hardest about being a writer; navigating the industry. This series of frank, no-frills conversations will shine a light on the inner workings of the literary industry, from self and alternate publishing, to editing and submitting to journals and prizes. There'll even be time to form new connections with fellow writers and literary workers to ignite the next chapter of your writing journey.

WHEN: Sunday, 8 September, 11am-5pm
WHERE: The Wheeler Centre & online
WITH: Michael Earp, Seth Malacari, Laura Elizabeth Woollett, Karen Wyld and more
PRICE: \$100/\$80 Concession/\$50 First Nations Tix
ACCESS: Wheelchair accessible ♿, Auslan interpretation and live captioning available on request

START YOUR FESTIVAL JOURNEY HERE!

Catapult yourself into free events at all hours.

Morning Pages

Like listening to a podcast on your tram ride to work, begin a new day by paying a visit to one of EWF's free morning sessions. Join us for a tea or coffee, before you venture into the rest of your day with vibrant and invigorating conversations ringing in your head, ready to revisit when you next put pen to paper.

EVENTS:

- Embodied Writing with Alicia Cook
- No Typewriters / No Talking with Jackson Wood
- Sweaty Palms hosted by Madeline Rebbechi

PRICE: Free (bookings essential)

LUNCH/BREAK: Drop-ins

Gain a new lease on your day at one of EWF's free lunchtime workshops. Exchange your work with fellow writers, create colourful vision boards, and have a crack at literature's most succinct form. A perfect hour of pause to reconnect with your inner wordsmith.

EVENTS:

- Collage & Moodboarding with Sophia Garcia
- Flash Fiction with Emma Osbourne
- Fresh Eyes with EWF

PRICE: Free (bookings essential)



From bats at dusk, to gigs in surprising places, this is EWF's heralded suite of free evening programming. Surrender to a perfect literary night cap, whether online or tucked away in some beloved corners of Melbourne, Australia's first UNESCO City of Literature. See you after the sun sets.

Make It Up Club: EWF Edition

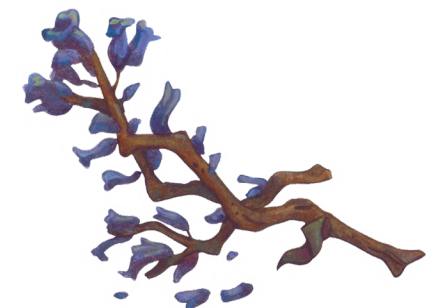
WITH: Hasib Hourani, Jordan Prosser, Cher Tan, WHELK, and more
WHERE: narrm ngarrgu Library

Flight of the Bats 🦇

WITH: Annelize Erese, Ronia Ibrahim, Nicholas Madden, Nicole Moore and more
WHERE: Fairfield Amphitheatre

What's Your Deal

WITH: Aurelia St Clair, Emily Dale, Kirk Marshall, Ale Prunotto, and more
PRICE: Free (bookings essential)
WHERE: Theory Bar



Full details on the EWF website.

Events designed to help you hone your craft.

Masterclasses

Be led into a rich world of literature by some of the best creative minds the continent has to offer. In 2024, EWF brings you two Masterclasses, featuring writers whose knowledge spans across form and function.

Each Masterclass features: one keynote speech from an industry leader, one panel discussion and one 90-minute workshop with practical writing guidance and advice

WHERE: Online (Zoom)

PRICE: \$80/\$60 Concession/\$45 First Nations Tix

ACCESS: Auslan interpreted  & Closed Caption

Arts Writing

Arts journalism is many writers' first foray into publication. In 2024, there are increasingly fewer avenues to access exciting, thorough, and diverse writing about music, film, theatre, food, and more.

How can we keep this vast form of writing alive with integrity and bold ideas? How can we ensure that arts writing is accessible, rather than exclusive? Tune in to hear emerging and established arts writers share their perspectives and experiences.

FEATURING: Daniel Browning, Nina Cully, Robyn Doreian, Martyn Reyes, Isabella Trimboli

WHEN: Monday 9 September, 11am-2pm

Creative Living

How can we bring artistry into our daily lives, beyond our writing practice? From slowing down and surrendering to the process, to imbuing our rituals and routines with beauty and curiosity, hear from some of our favourite creatives, as they interrogate what it means to approach life with creativity.

FEATURING: Madison Griffiths, Tiia Kelly, Roumina Parsa, Maggie Zhou and more



WHEN: Thursday, 12 September, 10am-2pm

Writers' Salon

EWF's new Writers' Salon is the place and space for literary discussion and creative connection. Part workshop, part round table, this is an exclusive, intimate space where writers gather and craft and community are nurtured.

WHERE: The Wheeler Centre, Workshop Space

PRICE: \$35/\$30 Concession/\$25 First Nations Tix

ACCESS: Wheelchair accessible , Auslan interpretation available on request 

Writing to the Edge of Reality

Fiction has an uncanny ability to defamiliarise, turning ordinary streets and locations into sites of strangeness and revelation.

Alongside writer **Raeden Richardson**, attendees will traverse writing that constantly defies easy categorisation, drawing upon visual art to guide the journey of writing to the edge of reality.

WHEN: Wednesday 11 September, 6.30-8pm

Poetic Resistance

Poetry has long possessed a capacity for resistance, in both the personal and political. Join poet, writer and educator **Hasib Hourani** for an evening of poetry, and its power to preserve culture, provoke change, and speak truth to power.

WHEN: Monday 9 September, 6.30-8pm

Invoking Eros

Sensuality, eros and the body are eternal subjects for powerful symbolism, and magnetic storytelling. Join poet, artist and somatic facilitator **Shannon May Powell** in exploring how pleasure and desire can unfurl on the page to enhance your storytelling.

WHEN: Thursday 12 September, 6.30-8pm

Soak up the freshest talent at these live in-person performances.

Creative Performances

Scream Scenes

It's Friday the 13th! EWF lands back at Thornbury Picture House for a night of ghost stories, and a screening of classic fantasy-horror film, Beetlejuice. Dress up in your phantasmic finest for an evening of spine-tingling stories, from writers and ghouls alike.

WHEN: Friday, 13 September, 8-10pm

WITH: Nina Cully, Frank Lord, John

Morrissey, Emma Osbourne and more

WHERE: Thornbury Picture House

PRICE: \$25/\$21 Concession / \$15 First Nations Tix

ACCESS: Auslan interpreted , Wheelchair accessible 

Body Curious

Bodies are our vessels for experience, texture, and feeling. They are our sensory conduits through which we express ourselves to the world. Join these body-curious artists for a night of performances, devoted to sensorial writing and self-discovery through the body.

WHEN: Saturday 14 September, 7-9pm

WITH: Cainne, Stephanie Powell, Mx Sly and more

PRICE: \$25/\$21 Concession / \$15 First Nations Tix

ACCESS: Auslan interpreted , Wheelchair accessible 


Trick of Light

As daylight extends and shadows shift, a trick of light can illuminate the unknown. Join us for an evening of multimodal performances and visual treats as writers and artists come together to revel in the light, after dark.

WHEN: Tuesday, 10 September, 8-10pm

WITH: Alison J Barton, Vahideh Eisaei, Elnaz Sheshgelani, Sara Saleh and more

PRICE: \$25/\$21 Concession / \$15 First Nations Tix

ACCESS: Auslan interpreted , Wheelchair accessible 

Do You Think I'm Sexy?

Dress to impress and step into the EWF boudoir – metaphorically – to hear artists read a selection of romance and erotica. From sensual dreams to awkward encounters, fan fiction to personal fantasies, come along for a veritable feast of words and wonder.

WHEN: Friday, 6 September, 8-10pm

WITH: Orlando Silver and more

PRICE: \$25/\$21 Concession / \$15 First Nations Tix

ACCESS: Auslan interpreted , Wheelchair accessible 



More events online...

NOTES BY:

My next big idea...

Support over two decades of new writing and storytelling!

EWF is a not-for-profit organisation and registered charity with deductible gift recipient (DGR) status - all donations over \$2 are tax deductible. All donations over \$20 will be recognised with a heartfelt thank you and mention on the EWF website.

Every donation - no matter how big or small - helps us create a better festival and future for the voices of tomorrow.



Find out more at emergingwritersfestival.org.au/donate.

