



Northland Secondary Schools Short Story Competition

Opens 1 June 2026, closes 31 August 2026

First Place \$100

Second place \$60

Third Place \$40

Judges: Sue Barker & Deborah Jowitt

Entry forms: Emailed entries only. Download entry forms at: <https://northlandauthors.co.nz/>

No entry fee. **Each student may enter up to two stories.** As our judges are not fluent in Te Reo Māori, all entries will need to be in English.

Word Limit: Up to 500 words.

Theme: Open.

Submissions: Writer's name, story title, and word count must go on the entry form along with school/home school, class/teacher details. Plain font, 1.5 spacing, and indented paragraphs.

Original work only; no AI content.

Stories must include a title **but must not include the writer's name** as entries will be judged anonymously. Writers should be guided with editing before submitting their story.

Email completed entry form and each story as **separate docx or rtf files** to nzsanorthlandevents@gmail.com by 31 August 2026.

Placegetters will be published in The Northern Advocate and will be eligible for consideration for the Northland Young Writers' Award run annually by the Northland branch of NZSA. All placed stories will be published on the Northland Branch NZSA website and by NZME/Northern Advocate.

The Northern
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