



Australian Association
for Infant Mental Health

Ann Morgan Prize 2024 Invitation to Submit

About AAIMH

The Australian Association for Infant Mental Health (AAIMH) is a not-for-profit organisation of professionals, from a range of disciplines, including health, education, and welfare. AAIMH understands that infancy and early childhood (0 to 3 years) is a critical time for the development of a person's emotional, physical, cognitive, social, and mental health; it is during this time that we discover our sense of self. AAIMH's mission is to share this understanding with others so that everyone who works and plays with infants and young children can learn to recognize when things are not going well and know how to help.

About Ann Morgan

As a creative pioneer in the field of infant mental health, Doctor Ann Morgan provided immense support and leadership for those working with troubled infants and their families. She was a passionate advocate for infants and parents, providing transformational interventions for them and inspiration for her colleagues. She intuitively understood what the science is now telling us: Babies are born communicators who learn fast. An infant is not an object, but a person who responds to their environment; in the first three years of life, that environment shapes their future self.

About the Prize

To honour Ann Morgan's contribution to infant mental health, and her advocacy for the mental health of infants, AAIMH Victoria is offering two Creative Writing Prizes of AU\$750 each:

- One prize for AAIMH and / or WAIMH members
- One prize for any other Australian writer

The prize is for a work of fiction, poetry, drama, or creative non-fiction that explores or imagines the infant's subjective, emotional world.

Entry deadline

- The closing date for entries is **5pm on Friday, 19th July, 2024, (AEST)**.

Who can enter?

- Australian residents aged 18 years or over at the time of submission.
- AAIMH and WAIMH members. You must be a financial member at the time of submission.

How to enter:

- Please read the **Terms and Conditions** carefully.
- Submit your entry by e-mail to info-vic@aaimh.org.au by 5pm on Friday, 19th July, 2024.
- Write **Ann Morgan Prize 2024** in the subject line.
- **Please attach your submission as a word document.**
- **The completed entry form must be included as a separate attachment with evidence of \$10 payment for non AAIMH / WAIMH members.**
- Judging will be 'blind' therefore the name of the Word document file must include only the title of your entry. **Do not put your own name in the title of the entry or in the file name.**
- You will receive email confirmation that your entry has been received. After judging, only short-listed writers will be notified.
- The winner of the prize will be announced at the end of August 2024, and subsequently on the AAIMH website (www.aaimh.org.au).

Terms and conditions of entry

1. Entrants must be aged 18 years or over, Australian residents, and/or WAIMH members at time of submission.
2. All works must be in English, typed in 12-point sized plain font (Time New Roman, Arial or Calibri), and 1.5 spaced. Pages must be numbered.
3. Entries must be original work and the entrant's own work.
4. Entries must not have won a previous award or competition.
5. Entries must be unpublished at the time of submission and remain unpublished until after the winner is announced. Publication includes in print or any type of online publication.
6. Entries are submitted unencumbered/unrestricted, with full first publication rights available to the Australian Association for Infant Mental Health. Copyright remains with the author.
7. Submissions under consideration by another competition or publication, or work that has been previously published or awarded, will not be accepted.
8. By entering this competition, writers grant AAIMH free-licence to publish their winning and highly commended work on the AAIMH website and in the WAIMH open-access publication, *Perspectives*. Intellectual Property shall remain with the individual author.
9. The author's name, biography, and image may be used in promoting the Ann Morgan Prize.

8. Entries must be no more than 3,000 words.
9. The name of the author must not appear anywhere on the entry.
10. Entries will be judged completely anonymously.
11. Entries must be non-defamatory and must not infringe people's privacy or intellectual property.
12. The judges' decision will be final. No correspondence will be entered into.
13. Entries must be submitted by 5pm on 19th July, 2024. **Late entries will not be accepted.**
14. Each winner will receive AU\$750. If the judges decide that two entries are of equal merit, the prize money will be shared equally between the two winners.
15. The winning author/s may be invited to read their work at the prize-giving ceremony. Authors who are Highly Commended may also be invited to read their work.
16. The winning entry will be published on the AAIMH website (www.aaimh.org.au).

About the judges

- **Joanna Murray-Smith** is one of Australia's most produced playwrights. Her plays have been produced all over the world and in many languages. She is also a novelist, librettist, and screenwriter.
- **Jennifer Harrison**, a child psychiatrist specialised in neurodevelopmental conditions, has published eight poetry collections, most recently *Anywhy* (Black Pepper 2018). She founded, and now manages the Dax Poetry Collection housed at the Dax Centre, University of Melbourne. She is currently Chair of the World Psychiatry Association's Section for Art and Psychiatry and in 2012 was awarded the Christopher Brennan Award for sustained contribution to Australian poetry.
- **Campbell Paul** is a Consultant Infant and Child Psychiatrist at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne and Honorary Principal Fellow in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Melbourne. He is the current President of the World Association for Infant Mental Health (WAIMH).
- **Christine Hill** is a midwife, psychotherapist, and writer. Her non-fiction work has been published in *The Victorian Writer* and *Meanjin*.
