

# Australian authors recognised

The 2019 Australian Book Industry Awards (ABIAs) were announced on Thursday 2 May at a red carpet event in the Grand Ballroom of Sydney's International Convention Centre, hosted by musician and performer Casey Bennetto. The awards are judged by an academy of more than 250 respected publishing industry figures and they celebrate the excellence of Australian writing, publishing and book selling. This year's winners are a showcase of amazing Australian talent. Libraries were represented at the event by Eve Woodberry FALIA, Chair of the ALIA Book Industry and Elending Advisory Committee; Patricia Genat, former ALIA President; Jan Richards AM FALIA, former ALIA President; Robert Knight OAM, incoming ALIA President; Vicki McDonald FALIA, former ALIA President; and Sue McKerracher, ALIA CEO.

The night was a resounding success with debut novelist Trent Dalton as the star of the show, with his bestselling novel *Boy Swallows Universe* (HarperCollins Australia) winning four awards: Book of the Year; Literary Book of the Year; the Matt Richell Award for New Writer of the Year; and Audio Book of the Year (Wavesound, narrated by Stig Wemyss). This follows on the book's wins for The Indie Book Awards 2019 Book of the Year, the MUD Literary Prize 2019, the winner of the Award for New Writing and the People's Choice Award at the NSW Premier's Literary Awards.

Behrouz Boochani has received another award for his journal-memoir, tapped out on a mobile phone on Manus Island, *No Friend But the Mountains: Writing from Manus Prison* (Pan Macmillan Australia), translated from the Farsi by Omid Tofighian, which won the General Non-Fiction Book of the Year. The General Fiction Book of the Year went to Holly Ringland for *The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart* (HarperCollins Publishers), and the Book of the Year for Younger Children (ages 7-12) went to Andy Griffiths and Terry Denton for *The 104-Storey Treehouse* (Pan Macmillan Australia). While Bri Lee's *Eggshell Skull* (Allen & Unwin) won the Biography of the Year Award. 🌟



## AUSTRALIAN BOOK INDUSTRY AWARD WINNERS 2019:

### Illustrated Book of Year

*Family: New vegetable classics to comfort and nourish*,  
Hetty McKinnon (Pan Macmillan Australia)

### International Book of Year

*Less*, Andrew Sean Greer (Hachette Australia)

### Small Publisher Adults Book of the Year

*Growing Up Aboriginal in Australia*, Dr Anita Heiss (ed.)  
(Black Inc Books)

### Small Publisher Children's Book of the Year

*Whisper*, Lynette Noni (Pantera Press)

### Book of the Year for Older Children (ages 13+)

*Jane Doe and the Cradle of All Worlds*, Jeremy Lachlan  
(Hardie Grant Egmont)

### Children's Picture Book of the Year (ages 0-6)

*All the Ways to be Smart*, Davina Bell  
and Allison Colpoys (Scribble Kids' Books)

### Lloyd O'Neil Hall of Fame Award

Richard Walsh

### Pixie O'Harris Award

Kathy Kozlowski

### Publisher of the Year

Pan Macmillan Australia

### Small Publisher of the Year

Affirm Press

### National Book Retailer of the Year

Booktopia

### Independent Book Retailer of the Year

Mary Martin Bookshops

### Rising Star Award

Ella Chapman