

TERTIARY ARTISTS BOOK PRIZE

LIBRIS AWARDS

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Artspace Mackay ('ASM'), a division of Mackay Regional Council ('Council'), strictly adheres to the following Terms & Conditions to ensure fairness for all entrants. Please ensure you abide by all Terms & Conditions as the selection panel will not consider entries that do not comply.

Key Dates

- **Friday 17 October 2025** – Expressions of Interest open.
- **Friday 6 March 2026** – Expressions of Interest close 5pm AEST.
- **Friday 27 March 2026** – Selected artists/tertiary students notified, and new artwork commission agreements issued.
- **Friday 24 April 2026** – signed new artwork commission agreements and invoice for 50% stage 1 payment delivered/due to Artspace Mackay.
- **Friday 29 May 2026** – 50% stage 1 new artwork commission payment to selected artists/tertiary students.
- **Friday 23 April 2027** – completed artist books and invoice for 50% stage 2 payment delivered/due to Artspace Mackay.
- **Saturday 29 May – Sunday 29 August 2027** – 2027 Libris Awards exhibition dates.
- **Friday 9 – Sunday 11 July 2027** – abbe Artists Book Conference + Fair, Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre (MECC)
- **6pm, Saturday 10 July 2027** – 2027 Libris Awards opening event and announcement of winners.
- **Tuesday 14 - Friday 24 September 2027** – finalists' works to be collected or returned to artists by post (except acquisitive award winners and those works acquired by Artspace Mackay).

Artwork

For the purposes of this prize, Artspace Mackay considers an '**artist book**' as an artwork that is, or interacts with, the book form. They are works of art in their own right, rather than a medium to present pre-existing work or text.

While artists books can take many forms, there are a few elements that are common across the practice. Understanding a book as an artwork invites a reflection on the properties of the book form itself. Much like any act of reading, an artist book is a physical experience that allows a connection with the medium that – while social in its implications – is individual and personal. Whether the contents are visually or linguistically based (often a mix of both), physically moving through an artwork implicates notions of sequence, repetition, juxtaposition, and duration. (Printed Matter Inc.)

There is no set theme for the *Libris Awards: Tertiary Artists Book Prize*. Applicants should articulate how the medium of the artist book will be employed to extend and enhance the overall concept of their proposed artwork in the Artist's Statement section of the Expression of Interest (EOI) Form.

Indicative and final artworks submitted must be the original work of the artist. You can view the 3D virtual tour of the *2025 Libris Awards: The Australian Artist Book Prize* exhibitions [here](#), as well as previous acquisitive winners [here](#).



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Please contact ASM at librisawards@mackay.qld.gov.au if you require further information about artwork requirements.

Terms & Conditions of Entry

1. The *Libris Awards: Tertiary Artists Book Prize* is an invitational award open to Australian artists currently undertaking (as of 6 March 2026) or who have recently completed (in the last two years prior to 6 March 2026) tertiary studies in arts, fine art, or design in Australia. You must be a citizen or permanent resident (at least 12 months) of Australia and over 18 years of age. Course and institution name and student ID number must be provided.
2. To be eligible, all entrants must submit a completed Expression of Interest (EOI) application via SmartyGrants [here](#) by the closing date being 5:00 pm AEST Friday 6 March 2026. Entries received after this date will not be accepted.
3. Expressions of Interest (EOI) must be submitted online via the EOI form. All entries must include the following information:
 - (a) Artist's statement (200 words maximum). This should address the current themes and concepts present in the artist's practice, a description of the proposed new artist book and its main themes/concept and, articulate how the medium of the artist book is inherent to and will be employed to extend and enhance the overall concept of their proposed artwork.
 - (b) Up to five (5) print quality jpeg images. Images should be less than 2MB, at least 1600 pixels wide, saved as jpegs/jpgs and able to be opened on Windows 11 Operating System. By submitting the images, entrants warrant that they are the copyright owner of the photographs or have permission from the copyright owner to submit the photographs for the purpose of promoting the exhibition.
 - (c) Artist CV (no more than two A4 pages), submitted as a PDF attachment.
 - (d) Written reference/letter of endorsement from current lecturer/supervisor (email acceptable).
4. Any application that does not include the above support material will be ineligible and will not be processed.
5. All entries will initially be assessed by a Council-appointed panel, which will select a shortlist of up to seven (7) artists/students to create one (1) newly commissioned artist book each.
6. Shortlisted artists/students will receive a \$750 non-acquisitive, new artwork commission fee (50% stage 1 payment upon completion of signed artwork commission agreement and 50%



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stage 2 payment upon completion and delivery of the new artist book) to create a new artist book for the *2027 Libris Awards*. Shortlisted finalists for the tertiary prize will be issued with an artwork commission agreement outlining concept timelines and delivery deadlines.

Compliance with this agreement will ensure the work remains eligible for the *2027 Libris Awards: Tertiary Artists Book Prize*.

7. Selected artists/students will have 12 months to create a new artist book for the tertiary prize. These artist's books will be exhibited at Artspace Mackay as part of the *2027 Libris Awards* exhibition of finalists. The selected artists/tertiary students will then vie for the \$3,000 acquisitive *2027 Libris Awards: Tertiary Artists Book Prize*.
8. All entrants will be contacted by email and advised whether their entry has been shortlisted. The shortlist determined by the Council-appointed panel will be final. No feedback will be provided, and no correspondence will be entered into.
9. Artists/students not shortlisted may still enter the *2027 Libris Awards* but will not be eligible for the *2027 Libris Awards: Tertiary Artists Book Prize*. *2027 Libris Awards* application fees will apply. If the artist/student is successfully shortlisted for the *2027 Libris Awards*, they will be eligible for the Daly Bay National Artists Book Award (acquisitive) of \$10,000, the Daly Bay Highly Commended Artists Book Award (acquisitive) of \$5,000, and, if eligible, the Cathy Knezevic Regional Artists Book Award (acquisitive) of \$3,000. For more information and terms and conditions, visit: https://www.artspacemackay.com.au/whats_on/libris_awards.
10. Each final artwork commission must be an original, uncopied work made solely by the artist(s) in the 12 months prior to the new artwork delivery date of Friday 23 April 2027. If the artist has worked in collaboration with another artist/s, or been assisted by technicians or writers, this detail must be identified in the application material submitted with the entry.
11. Final artwork commissions for the *2027 Libris Awards: Tertiary Artists Book Prize* acquisitive category must be available for acquisition by Council at its election in exchange for the winners' prize amount of \$3,000 (ex. GST).
12. Selected artists/students are expected to present a paper outlining their creative practice at the *2027 abbe Artist Book Conference*, from Friday 9 – Sunday 11 July 2027 at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre. *abbe Conference* Convenor/s will reach out to selected artists/students to finalise arrangements in early February 2027. Council recognises that the authorship and copyright of the shortlisted work to be displayed in the final *2027 Libris Awards* exhibition belongs to the artist(s).
13. The winner of the *2027 Libris Awards: Tertiary Artists Book Prize* acquisitive award will grant ASM a non-exclusive, perpetual, royalty free copyright licence to reproduce images of the work for the following non-commercial purposes:



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- (a) the promotion of future ASM competitions
 - (b) for archive in the ASM online catalogue; and
 - (c) in catalogues and marketing material promoting exhibitions that the artwork is included in.
14. Any other use of the work will require permission from the artist, unless permitted by the Copyright Act 1968.
 15. Shortlisted entrants notified under Condition 9 must arrange for delivery of their work by Australia Post or courier to ASM by Friday 23 April 2027, free of any costs to ASM. The artist is responsible for taking out their own transit insurance should they so wish.
 16. When delivered to ASM, works must be accompanied by a completed artwork label form and any entrant instructions regarding recommended display of the work. The artwork label form will be distributed by ASM to shortlisted entrants with their new artwork commission agreement. Artworks will only be accepted when an artwork label is shared.
 17. All works shortlisted must be available for display for the duration of the *2027 Libris Awards* exhibition from 29 May to Sunday 29 August 2027 at ASM.
 18. All works will be insured by Council from the date of delivery to ASM and for the duration of the exhibition. Council does not accept liability for any loss or damage inflicted that occurs to works during transit to and from ASM. The entrant acknowledges and accepts that all risk during transit is the sole responsibility of the entrant.
 19. All works must be ready for display and free of pest and mould infestation when delivered to ASM. Wall-mounted or free-standing works must be suitably prepared for installation/hanging (i.e., fixtures, instructions etc. included). Final decisions about the appropriate means of display lay with ASM. ASM will endeavour to display works according to the entrant's instructions, however no guarantee is given that the entrant's instructions will be complied with. All works will be held by ASM for the duration of the exhibition. The exhibition closes Sunday 29 August 2027.
 20. All entrants are to ensure they have shared adequate labelling with ASM to facilitate the return of their work. This includes an address label including contact name, address, and phone number. Entries nominated by the entrant to be collected personally or by courier must be collected at the entrant's cost during business hours between Tuesday 14 to Friday 24 September 2027. Where the entrant has not nominated that the work is to be collected personally or by courier, ASM will cover the cost of postage of artworks back to entrants via Australia Post (or similar designated courier delivery as determined by Artspace Mackay) – standard parcel delivery only. Entrants are responsible for their own transit insurance should they so wish. Entries will be adequately packed in a strong box/tube. Packaging materials



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provided by the entrant should be suitable for re-use. Oversized or heavy works will incur an additional charge to be paid for by the entrant. Contact librisawards@mackay.qld.gov.au for more information. Return of works by courier shall be organised by the entrant at their own expense. ASM must be informed of any arrangements for pick-up of works in advance and all courier paperwork prepared by the entrant. If works nominated for personal or courier collection are not collected by close of business on Friday 24 September 2027 the work will be sent by ASM to storage at the entrant's expense.

21. Judge/s for the *2027 Libris Awards* will be appointed by Council and will be of appropriate credentials to make a critical assessment of the entries. The decision of the Judging Panel is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.
22. Council reserves the right to refuse display of any entry that does not meet the requirements outlined in these Terms and Conditions, or any work it deems to be unacceptable for exhibition.
23. Employees of Council and those involved in the administration or judging of the *2027 Libris Awards* are not eligible to enter.
24. In completing the EOI form, the entrant agrees to these Terms & Conditions.
25. If a dispute arises relating to the administration of the *2027 Libris Awards: Tertiary Artists Book Prize*, the parties agree to negotiate to settle the dispute with the assistance of an agreed independent third party, or if no agreement can be made, by a mediator from the Australian Mediation Association before litigation.

Other Information

Artspace Mackay will not be responsible for sale of works. Sales enquiries will be directed to the artist or their nominated dealer.

