

[MWF Local Libraries Program]

7 - 10 May 2026

[MWF]





[MWF]

[About Melbourne Writers Festival]

Melbourne Writers Festival (MWF) brings writers and readers together to be inspired, challenged and thrilled by an intelligent, rousing and diverse program of books and ideas.

Since 1986, the Festival has entertained hundreds of thousands of readers as Australia's boldest literary festival. Based in Melbourne, a UNESCO City of Literature, we provide the inspiration and framework for vital, timely conversations.

In 2025 we welcomed 139 writers and speakers to take part in 70 events across the program.



[MWF]

[Bring MWF to your community]

Each year, we offer a selection of libraries the opportunity to bring a piece of Melbourne Writers Festival right into their own local community. Working closely with MWF's programming team, you'll have access to our wide catalogue of guests. Together, we can develop an event that resonates strongly for your community.

In recent years, we have produced some wonderful events with our library partners including:

- An in-conversation with award-winning Yuwaalaraay storyteller **Nardi Simpson** (left) reflecting on motherhood, belonging and connection to Country in her latest novel *The Belburd*.
- The beloved author of *The Secret River*, **Kate Grenville**, discussing her deeply personal new memoir *Unsettled*.
- World-leading artificial intelligence expert **Toby Walsh** discussing his book *Machines Behaving Badly* and the possibilities and perils of AI.
- Award-winning journalist **Louise Milligan** showcasing her first foray into crime fiction, *Pheasant's Nest*.
- Beloved writer and ABC broadcaster **Richard Fidler** discussing his gripping history book, *The Book of Roads and Kingdoms*.



[MWF]

[Feedback from MWF library partners]

‘What a pleasure it is – as always – to work with all the staff from Melbourne Writers Festival! It’s always such smooth sailing and a very enjoyable experience. And I’m always extremely delighted that you want us to take part!’

‘Both speakers were excellent, engaging, thoughtful, and insightful. The audience responded extremely well – there were a lot of engaging questions. It was highly successful and very enjoyable.’

‘It was a great session. A couple of attendees commented that it was great to see MWF reaching beyond the CBD – particularly for those with physical limitations or transport difficulties. We would love to participate again with MWF.’

‘The partnership has enabled us to present events with high-calibre authors, many of them interstate speakers who we would otherwise be unable to feature at the library.’

Your library will receive:

- Inclusion in MWF26 – plus associated event listings on the MWF website and in the printed program guide; and promotion on MWF social channels.
- Collaboration with MWF's programming team to tailor events to match your community's areas of interest.
- Access to MWF's guest list of 150+ artists, including options for general and young readers.
- MWF marketing pack to help promote your library's event.
- MWF ticket discounts for your library's book club or community group.

Investment for a single event: \$2000 +GST

Additional event/s: \$1500 +GST per event

Note: The fees above include speaker fees and travel costs for up to two (2) artists per event, usually a writer and a moderator. Further costs will apply if additional artists are required. Final cost to be confirmed in consultation with MWF.



[Expressions of Interest]

To participate in the Local Libraries Program, please submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) form [via this link](#).

KEY DATES:

- EOIs Open: 6 October 2025
- EOIs Close: 18 November 2025
- Outcome Notification: 25 November 2025

ADDITIONAL DATES:

- Events confirmed: 12 December 2025
- Payment due: 16 January 2026
- Bookings open (if taken): 19 March 2026

[Contact us]

Veronica Sullivan

Festival Director/CEO

veronica@mwf.com.au

[MWF]

