



For immediate release

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## 2019 CHASS Australia Prizes Shortlists Announced

The Council for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (CHASS) has announced the shortlists for its prestigious 2019 Australia Prizes in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS), which will be presented on 30 October in Melbourne.

For the 2019 CHASS Australia Prize for a Book, the shortlisted titles are **The Bible in Australia: A Cultural History** by Meredith Lake (NewSouth Books), **Eggshell Skull** by Bri Lee (Allen & Unwin), and **Elizabeth Macarthur: A Life at the Edge of the World** by Michelle Scott Tucker (Text Publishing). The winner will receive a cash prize of \$3,500. Sponsored by Routledge, the Book Prize is for an Australian author whose non-fiction book, published between January and December 2018, contributes most to Australian cultural and intellectual life.

For the 2019 CHASS Australia Prize for Distinctive Work, the finalists are **Etched in Bone** (Béatrice Bijon and Martin Thomas), **Jill Bilcock: Dancing the Invisible** (Axel Grigor), **No Longer a Wandering Spirit: The Story of Bessy Flowers** (Sharon Heubner) and **Deathscapes** (Suvendrini Perera and Joseph Pugliese). The winner will receive a cash prize of \$3,500. Sponsored by Routledge, the Distinctive Work Prize is for a performance, exhibition, project or a specific advance in policy development in any HASS field between January and December 2018.

For the 2019 CHASS Australia Prize for a Future Leader, the finalists are **Ian Micheal, Yves Rees and Hayley Winchcombe**. The winner will receive a cash prize of \$2,000. Sponsored by Future Leaders, the Future Leader Prize is being awarded to an individual aged under 30 demonstrating clear leadership and potential in any HASS field.

For the 2019 CHASS Australia Prize for a Student, the finalists are **Patrick Morrison** (The University of Western Australia), **Sarah Pini** (Macquarie University) and **Renee Schipp** (Curtin University). The winner will receive a cash prize of \$500. Sponsored by CHASS, the Student Prize is for a student project, performance or exhibition that best exemplifies the contribution of HASS areas to our understanding of our nation and us.

“Congratulations to the remarkable finalists. Thanks to jury members for their unwavering commitment and valuable time spent judging the 300 nominations received this year and arriving at such robust shortlists. We are pleased with the growing response to the annual Prizes and would like to thank all nominators and nominees for their participation in 2019. We invite our colleagues and friends in the HASS sector to join the celebrations at the Australia Prizes’ Ceremony on 30 October,” said Emeritus Professor Steven Schwartz AM, Patron of the annual Australia Prizes.



**EVENT INFORMATION FOR YOUR DIARY/CALENDAR AND EVENTS PAGES:**

**What:** 2019 CHASS Australia Prizes Ceremony

**Where:** Media Portal, Building 14, 414-418 Swanston Street, Melbourne

**When:** 6pm - 8pm, 30 October 2019

**Cost per person (+ GST):** CHASS Member: \$65, General: \$70, Student & Concession: \$60

**Web:** <https://2019chassaustrialiprizesceremony.eventbrite.com.au>

For more information, please contact CHASS Executive Officer Divya Das on 03 9925 3935 or via [membership@chass.org.au](mailto:membership@chass.org.au).

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**Further information**

**About the CHASS Australia Prizes**

Established in 2014, the CHASS Australia Prizes are designed to honour distinguished achievements by Australians working, studying or training in the HASS (Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences) areas, including academics, practitioners, philanthropists, policy makers and students. The Australia Prizes are intended to draw international attention to Australia's achievements in HASS. In 2019, four prizes will be given out. Two are cash prizes of \$3,500 each and sponsored by Routledge: one for a non-fiction **Book** that enriches Australian cultural and intellectual life, the second for **Distinctive Work**, an exceptional artistic performance, exhibition, film, television show, play, composition or practical contribution to arts policy. The third cash prize of \$2,000 sponsored by Future Leaders is for a **Future Leader**, an individual under 30 years of age demonstrating leadership skill and potential in HASS. CHASS has sponsored the fourth cash prize of \$500 for a **Student** essay, exhibition, performance or project in any HASS area. In 2017, CHASS appointed Emeritus Professor Steven Schwartz AM as the Patron of the annual Prizes.

**About CHASS**

Established in 2004, the Council for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (CHASS) promotes and provides advocacy services for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences in Australia. It serves as a coordinating forum for practitioners, academics, teachers, researchers, and professionals in the sector. Supporting its member organisations in their relationships with policy makers and the broader community, CHASS is an important network for knowledge and skills. It provides a strong voice to the sector and helps members to contribute to public debate through programs for knowledge exchange and media awareness. For more information, please visit [www.chass.org.au](http://www.chass.org.au) or call CHASS Executive Officer Divya Das on (03) 9925 3935.