



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SHORT STORY COMPETITION GUIDELINES

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE GREEK AUSTRALIAN IN THE 3RD AND 4TH GENERATIONS AND WHAT ROLE DOES THE GREEK LANGUAGE PLAY IN THE CONTINUATION OF GREEK CULTURE AND IDENTITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA TODAY?

This is the topic of the short story competition being conducted by the Greek Museum of Adelaide Inc., as part of the South Australian launch of the book *Hellenic Dreaming: Greek-Australian Stories*, edited by Dr Helen Vatsikopoulos to take place on Saturday 14 June 2025, 2.00pm to 5.00pm.

Hellenic Dreaming is a compilation of stories from a wide number of prominent first- and second-generation Greek Australians talking about their experiences growing up in Australia. What do the next generations of Greek Australians think and how do they experience their Greek heritage and language?

South Australian high school students from multi-generational Greek Australian backgrounds are invited to submit a short story addressing the topic and to consider how their Greek background continues to play out in their lives and influence aspects of their social, cultural, or intellectual being.

WHO IS THIS COMPETITION OPEN TO?

This competition is open to any high school student who has a 3rd or 4th generation Greek heritage. Noting however that there are high school students who are first- or second-generation Greek Australians, they are welcome to submit a short story under a separate special category for which the first prize will be \$150.

PRIZES

There will be first, second and third place winners and a special category prize for the short story competition.

First prize

\$200 plus two airline tickets for the student and their parent/guardian to visit the Hellenic Museum in Melbourne, including accommodation, meals, and travel budget. Also included is a copy of the book *Hellenic Dreaming: Greek-Australian Stories* donated by Dr Helen Vatsikopoulos (prize value: \$2,819.00)

Second prize

\$250 plus a copy of the book *Hellenic Dreaming Greek-Australian stories* (prize value: \$300.00)

Third prize

\$200 plus a copy of the book *Hellenic Dreaming Greek-Australian stories* (prize value: \$250.00)

Special category - Prize for the 1st or 2nd generation winning entry

\$150.00



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SHORT STORY COMPETITION GUIDELINES

CRITERIA FOR SHORT STORIES AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students are asked to write a short story on this topic:

What does it mean to be Greek Australian in the 3rd and 4th generations and what role does the Greek language play in the continuation of Greek culture and identity for young people in South Australia today?

Entry is open to all high school students of Greek Australian background living in South Australia.

Students may wish to consider any of the following as a prompt when drafting their story but students can write on the topic in any way they like:

- Your experience being of Greek background, what you enjoy and like and what you dislike about this.
- Have you ever been to Greece? What did you think of your experience? If you have not been to Greece, are you keen to visit, and if so, why?
- Have you attended Greek dances and festivals?
- Do you speak Greek at home, and with whom?
- If you are learning Greek, why are you doing so?
- How important is knowing language for keeping Greek language and culture alive in future generations?
- As students, what encourages or inspires you to learn Greek?
- How valuable is knowing Greek for future careers?
- What things do you think preserve and promote Greek language and culture in Australia?

Short stories must be a minimum of 1500 words (1000 words for Years 7 and 8) but no more than 2000 words. The first paragraph must be written in both Greek (with the English translation provided), but the rest of the story is in English. The English translation will not be included in the word count.

The short story should have a concluding paragraph.

Students and a parent or guardian must sign and submit the Student / Parent Agreement Form by email, together with the story.

The first prize recipient will read their story to the audience at the book launch on Saturday 14 June 2025.

Upon submission, entrants will be asked to give some feedback on their experience of preparing and writing their story (for information purposes only, not part of the judging criteria).



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SHORT STORY COMPETITION GUIDELINES

DUE DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

Entries must be submitted by email in PDF format by the closing date and time: Friday 25 April 2025 at 11.50pm ACDT to Chrysoula Melissinaki at chrys.melissinaki@gmail.com.

Students who are undertaking their short story as part of their studies will also send a copy to their teacher either before or at the same time.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNERS

The prize winners will be publicly announced at the book launch of Hellenic Dreaming: Greek-Australian stories, by Dr Helen Vatsikopoulos. The event details are as follows:

Hellenic Dreaming Book Launch
Saturday, 14 June 2025, 2.00pm - 5.00pm
Cowandilla Community Room
173 Sir Donald Bradman Drive (corner Brooker Tce.)
COWANDILLA

All participants and their families are welcome to attend.
For more information contact: Chrysoula Melissinaki
Mobile 0457456339 but preferably by email at: chrys.melissinaki@gmail.com.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The stories remain the property of the Greek Museum of Adelaide Inc with copyright vested in the student.

A panel comprising a representative from the Book launch, the Modern Greek Language Teachers Association (SA) and Hellenic Studies Foundation will judge the entries and determine the prize winners. The decision of the Panel will be final. Finalists will receive notice by email in mid-May.

