

# National Year of Reading 2012



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## Thank you to the Australia Council

A big thanks to the Australia Council for the Arts Literature Board for providing a grant to enable the first Australian children's laureate (soon to be announced by the Australian Children's Literature Alliance) to travel to regional and remote parts of the country during the National Year of Reading. The support of all our funding partners – the Australian Government Office for the Arts and Department for Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Copyright Agency Ltd, Sidney Myer Fund and Australia Council is very much appreciated.



## Perfect partners

We are delighted with the way our ambassador, friends and partner roll call is developing. We will achieve our target of 50 well known, well respected ambassadors from a variety of fields, including the worlds of entertainment, sport and business. We will also have more than 100 partner organisations, many fantastic friends and some really great opportunities for collaboration. Find out who they all are on our [website](#).

## Wall of Hands

One of our partners, the Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation has asked us to promote the launch of its 2011 Wall of Hands appeal. This is a fabulous initiative to support Indigenous kids reading. Find out how you can help on the [website](#).



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## Our Story

Voting began online on 1 November for the Our Story shortlisted books. There are 48 – six for each state and territory – and you can place your vote on the [ABC website](#) anytime up until the 6 January 2012. Votes can also be registered at participating libraries and bookshops. If you'd like to download posters and voting slips, you can do so [here](#).

## First Tuesday Book Club

Great to have a mention for the National Year of Reading on the 1 November First Tuesday Book Club, and Jennifer Byrne will be talking about the Our Story shortlist again in the program that airs on 6 December. If you miss the program itself, you can always download the [video podcasts](#).



## The Reading Room

You can also join in the discussion about the shortlisted Our Story books on [The Reading Room website](#), which is hosting our National Year of Reading book club. We're especially interested to find out which books you'd have liked to see on the list and we'll be posting a "ones that got away" list in January as we wait for the results of the voting.

## Ray of sunshine

Sunshine Coast libraries have come up with their own special design for their 2012 library cards, and don't they look fabulous?



## New podcasts and free reads

If you're short of some reading and listening material, we recommend you go to our [website](#) and download one of the 27 Adult Learners Week competition short stories, or listen to the new podcasts of the winners. Many thanks to Writing Australia for managing this project and to the Department for Education, Employment and Workplace Relations for enabling writers to generate this great content.

## Good Reading

Good Reading magazine is putting its special edition National Year of Reading launch edition together for February. Advertising manager Tatyana is offering some really special advertising rates for libraries. To find out more, contact [tatyana@goodreadingmagazine.com.au](mailto:tatyana@goodreadingmagazine.com.au).



## Off the shelf

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The Victoria-based National Year of Reading choir 'Off the shelf' has been meeting monthly since mid-year and is getting ready for some live performances from April 2012. Send an email to [mirvine-tammes@yrpl.vic.gov.au](mailto:mirvine-tammes@yrpl.vic.gov.au) if you're interested in hearing what's on offer.

## Inside track

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It's not too late for libraries and bookshops to [register to be active participants in the National Year of Reading](#). By registering, all you're doing is telling us that we can count on your support, that there will be branding on display for at least part of the year, and that you will welcome approaches from us telling you about new opportunities as they arise. And there are some great benefits to be had! Registered outlets will hear about promotions, free, downloadable materials, and advance information about national events.

## Far and wide

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The chair of the National Year of Reading founder partners Margaret Allen, State Librarian of WA, has been invited to attend a gathering in Seoul on 13 and 14 December, to talk about the prospect of a National Year of Reading in Korea.

## Condolences

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We would like to offer our sincere condolences to National Year of Reading patron William McInnes and his family, following the death of his wife, film maker Sarah Watt, on 4 November.

## We'd love to hear from you

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The National Year of Reading project team, working on behalf of the founder partners – [Brenda Currie](#) - 0406 575 321, [Robyn Ellard](#) - 0412 659 919, [Karen Ward-Smith](#) - 0408 051 740 and [Sue McKerracher](#) - 0404 456 749, phone or mail us at [info@thelibraryagency.org.au](mailto:info@thelibraryagency.org.au).

The next newsletter will be out in December. Please let us know if there's a story you would like us to include. If you have had this e-newsletter forwarded to you, and would like to receive future issues, just add your details to the mailing list on our [website](#).