

Girls Write Up's program of panels and practical workshops explores the relationship between language, gender and power, and the effects of unconscious bias on our sense of self. It unpacks the ways that the female voice has been devalued in literary and popular culture, and gives participants the opportunity to discover their own creative voice, equipping them with the skills and the confidence to use it.



Emily Bitto Candy Bowers Sian Campbell Alice Chipkin



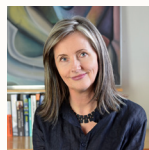
Hannah Donnelly Clementine Ford Samantha Forge Eloise Grills



Amy Middleton Tommi Parrish Alice Pung Izzy Roberts-Orr



Rebecca Shaw Alicia Sometimes Hannah Donnelly Lili Wilkinson



Fiona Wood

Girls Write Up and the Stella Schools Program wish to thank the following event partners for their generous support:

Cassy Liberman



Emerging Writers' Festival 14-24 June 2016



GIRLS WRITE UP

Friday 17 June 2016

Queen Victoria Women's Centre
210 Lonsdale St, Melbourne

Girls Write Up is a gender-inclusive, daylong wordfest for all teens that teaches empowerment through writing and sharing stories. Authors, journalists, activists, artists, poets and other creative thinkers will share the ways they have used their writing to define their identities and shape the world around them.

girlswriteup.thestellaprize.com.au

Girls Write Up is for anyone who has felt limited by their gender and wants to understand how language can not only constrain but also be used to liberate and empower. It is an inclusive event open to all teens from 12-18.

Workshop Room 1

10.00-12.00

From the Heart: the fear of exposing yourself

Clementine Ford

It often feels important to be honest in your writing, but what happens when you really lay it on the line? How do you develop the courage to speak from the heart? How do you cope, and is it worth it? Clementine Ford speaks to these themes with great experience.

12.30-2.30

Finding Your Voice through Performance: a slam poetry workshop

Candy Bowers

We all have important thoughts and feelings we want to express, and performing them as slam poetry is one of the most empowering ways you can do so. In this slam poetry workshop, Candy encourages participants to find the voice of their inner performer, and guides them through the process, from writing to performing a piece of slam poetry.

Workshop Room 2

10.00-12.00

Mini-mag Workshop

Amy Middleton

This workshop introduces participants to a range of writing styles for magazines and websites, including personal writing, nonfiction and reporting. Workshop participants pitch their stories, edit and respond in pairs, and put together a mini-magazine to be compiled digitally after the workshop.

12.30-2.30

DIY: getting started with comics and zines

Alice Chipkin and Tommi PG

In this interactive workshop about the art of visual storytelling, participants will learn a range of practical skills that will equip them to get started on their own DIY projects.

Victoria Room

9.00-9.30

Registration

During this time participants will register for the day, collect their goodie bags, and sign up for workshops.

9.30-10.00

Opening Address

Clementine Ford

What is the power of language to silence or erase voices? How can young women reclaim the language that is often used against them and develop the confidence to speak (or write) up? Clementine Ford launches the festival with her opening address.

10.00-11.00

On Comics and Unheard Voices

Hannah Donnelly, Eloise Grills and Tommi PG chaired by Alice Chipkin

Graphic narratives, zines and comics can provide platforms for marginalised voices, and the freedom to do things your own way. Alice Chipkin chairs this discussion with some of the most exciting graphic artists and zine-makers in Victoria right now.

11.00-12.00

The Radical Act of Writing Women

Emily Bitto, Alice Pung, Lili Wilkinson and Fiona Wood, chaired by Alicia Sometimes

Are women's stories for women only? Writing about women can be a radical act against the male-dominated literary canon. These four artists will each present a piece that demonstrates how this is true for them. This will be followed by a short panel discussion hosted by Alicia Sometimes.

12.00-12.30

Break

12.30-1.30

Sick of the Second Shelf

(curated by EWF)

Sian Campbell, Izzy Roberts-Orr and Alison Whittaker, chaired by Samantha Forge

In an unjust world where somehow the patriarchy's influence is still overwhelming and female writers are read differently based on their gender, how can young women ensure their voices are heard and respected? Through a practical and informative panel discussion, these four amazing, determined women will share their experiences in dealing with - and overcoming - structural bias in the publishing industry.

1.30-2.20

Lunch

During the break, participants will be asked to submit their questions for Ask Me Anything.

2.20-3.20

Ask Me Anything

Clementine Ford & Bec Shaw

This session consists of a thirty-minute panel discussion on the female writer's experience of vulnerability, criticism and scrutiny, followed by a thirty-minute Q&A in which Clementine and Bec will answer some of the anonymous questions submitted during the lunchbreak.

3.20-4.20

Mixer (optional)

Festival goers are invited to stick around to mingle and chat with other workshop participants and writers in this afternoon mixer.