

# The Australian Career Book Award

*hosted by the Royal Society of Arts Oceania*

---

**2025**

## **Aim**

There is widespread social concern over the future of work. Despite the highest level and the widest reach of education and qualifications in our history, people are concerned about the future of their careers and their uncertainty in the new world of economic disruption, rapidly changing job roles, AI and avatars, and robotic recruiting processes. They feel a lack of control over their futures.

There is a need for genuine and accessible career development advice based on reliable career research. The Royal Society of Arts – Oceania contributes by supporting high-quality career development books through a Fellow-led event – The Australian Career Book Award. This builds on the traditional RSA award model of citizen recognition in place since 1754.

The key values of the Royal Society of Arts are: open; optimistic; pioneering; rigorous; and enabling. The award criteria aim to operationalize these values, and nominated books should contribute to this culture.

## **Award criteria**

The Award Committee will confer the award based on the award criteria specified in the nomination form.

## **The book**

The award will go to an Australian career book published after January 1, 2024. The book will be printed and readily available to a wide audience, not an e-book. It should be a popular book, reaching the largest possible market with regard to the defined audience. Books can cover any aspects of career development, employability, employability skills, and the skills needed to gain and improve work. They should combine innovation with rigour, to produce change in career understanding for readers, with strategies to improve individual or group outcomes.

An Australian career book will target the Australian career reader with career information based on the Australian career and employment context.

## **The author**

A diversity of backgrounds is expected – career counsellors, HR operatives, industry experts, or individual memoirs telling a story to improve the career development of readers.

## **The publisher**

Books may be produced by a traditional publisher, a niche publisher, or the author as a self-publisher implementing traditional printing, or Print-on-Demand technology.

## **Nomination process**

The nominator must send a copy of the nomination form to the Award Convenor and the Director RSA Oceania. The nominator must include **ONE** copy of the book to the Award Convenor, and **THREE** copies to the Director. The Convenor and the Director will decide the Finalist Books for 2025. The Director will then post Finalist Books out to the Award Committee for assessment and the final decision on the awarded book for 2025 to be announced online on Saturday January 3 2026 at 10.00 am AEDST.

Award Convenor: Lawrence Arnold [thersa@careermelbourne.com](mailto:thersa@careermelbourne.com)

Director RSA Oceania: Philipa Duthie [philipa.duthie@thersa.org](mailto:philipa.duthie@thersa.org)

# The Australian Career Book Award

*hosted by the Royal Society of Arts Oceania*

---

## Nomination Form – 2025

**Title of book:**

**Name of author:**

**author email:**

**Name of nominator:**

**Nominator email:**

**Number of books printed since January 1, 2024: .....**

The award criteria for The Australian Career Book Award are based on the 5Rs: readable, reachable, recognised, relevant, and researched. Award descriptors have been developed to guide the Award Committee assessing the books. The descriptors may change from year to year and are not available to applicants, or those not on the Award Committee. This form is not an opportunity to pitch your book, and any extra information will not be read. Your book is your pitch!

- **Readable:** A book submitted for the award should be suitable for audience and purpose, and be at an appropriate readability rating level.
- **Reachable:** The book should have the widest popular reach with consideration for the target audience.
- **Recognised:** Book should be supported by career sector colleagues for the contribution to professional knowledge and practice.
- **Relevant:** Book content should be aligned with the career and employability needs of the contemporary Australian audience.
- **Researched:** Current research on career issues should be used to support opinions, propositions, and practices deployed by the author.

Applicants must by **Monday October 27 2025** send a copy of the nomination form to the Award Convenor and the Director RSA Oceania. The nominator must include **ONE** copy of the printed book to the Award Convenor, and **THREE** copies to the Director. The director will then post the Finalist Books to the Award Committee for assessment and the final decision on the awarded book 2025.

### **The Convener The Australian Career Book Award (one copy of the book only)**

Mr Lawrence Arnold

PO Box 98

Hawthorn VIC 3122

**AND**

### **The Director RSA Oceania (three copies of the book)**

Ms Philipa Duthie

16 McNeill Rd

Kallangur QLD 4503

Award Convenor: Lawrence Arnold [thersa@careermelbourne.com](mailto:thersa@careermelbourne.com)

Director RSA Oceania: Philipa Duthie [philipa.duthie@thersa.org](mailto:philipa.duthie@thersa.org)

# The Australian Career Book Award

*hosted by the Royal Society of Arts Oceania*

---

The Convenor reserves the right to extend the application period, to invite specific applications at any time, and to make any decisions needed from time to time to administer the award.

Receipt of nominations will be confirmed by email, as will the list of finalists. After an initial assessment by the Convenor and the RSA Oceania Director, the Director will send the Finalist Books to the Award Committee for the final decision. Decisions of the Award Committee are final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Multiple submissions from the same author are permitted, but each book must be submitted in accordance with the complete application process. Joint authors are permitted, but not compilations or collections of articles.

It is the responsibility of the nominator to ensure that submitted books arrive by submission deadlines, and that insurance, if necessary, is arranged, and that book tracking procedures are implemented. The award will not take any responsibility for any loss or delay of books through postal or courier delivery.

There is no submission fee.

**Books will not be returned.** They may be archived by the Award Committee to inform future committee procedures or for training of new committee members. They will not be sold or used for commercial purposes. You may indicate your preference for disposal below.

*My books may be donated to a suitable educational institution determined by Award Committee members. They may be used by students and staff. Yes/No*

**OR**

*My books may be disposed of by recycling. Yes/No*

Nominator signature: ..... Date: .....

The Convenor is available on 0449 746 955 or by email at [thersa@careermelbourne.com](mailto:thersa@careermelbourne.com)

Lawrence Arnold, Award Convenor    The Australian Career Book Award 2025

**NOMINATIONS CLOSE MONDAY October 27 2025**

Award Convenor: Lawrence Arnold [thersa@careermelbourne.com](mailto:thersa@careermelbourne.com)

Director RSA Oceania: Philipa Duthie [philipa.duthie@thersa.org](mailto:philipa.duthie@thersa.org)