A logo for a council

AI-generated content may be incorrect.A close-up of a logo

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**URSULA MORAY WILLIAMS**

**CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION 2025**

**Information and Competition Guidelines**

**Ursula Moray Williams** (1911-2006) was an English children’s author and illustrator of nearly 70 books for children. She visited Timaru in 1980 and donated a cup for a creative writing competition. Timaru District Libraries offer children and teens living within the South Canterbury district the chance to show off their writing skills and enter the 2025 Ursula Moray Williams Creative Writing Competition. The competition is open to students who are in Years 1 to 13, or if home-educated, are 5 to 18 years old.

There are five categories:

Years 1 to 3

Years 4 to 6

Years 7 to 8

Years 9 to 10

Years 11 to 13

The *Ursula Moray Williams Cup* will be awarded to the best overall story in the Years 1 to 8 categories. *The Friends of the Library Cup* will be awarded to the best overall story in the Years 9 to 13 categories. The winning stories in each age category will also be added to the content of our Short Story Dispenser.

**Important information that you need to know:**

● Write an original story of no more than 500 words on any subject. No generative AI (ChatGPT etc) may be used. The story must be writer’s own work.

● Stories will be judged on originality, language skills, characterisation and story

construction

● One entry per person please

● Entry forms are available at Timaru District Libraries or may be downloaded from our website [www.timarudistrictlibraries.co.nz](http://www.timarudistrictlibraries.co.nz)

● A completed entry form must accompany the story

● Typed stories are encouraged

● Timaru District Council employees and their immediate family members are not eligible to enter

● **Entries close at 6.00pm on Friday 15th August, 2025**

● **Prize giving to be held at the Timaru Children’s Library on Friday 19th September, 2025 at 5.00pm**

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**CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION 2025**

**ENTRY FORM**

Name: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

School: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

Age: ………………………………………… Year Level: …………………………………………………

Address: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………..

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Phone Number: …………………………………

Please tick box below if you give permission for your story and photograph to be published on the Timaru District Libraries website and local newspapers.

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| --- |
|  |

I have read the competition rules (or have had the rules read to me). This story is all my own work.

Signed…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………(Name of entrant or caregiver / teacher)

Please attach this entry form to your story.

Entries may be handed in at Timaru, Temuka or Geraldine Libraries

**or** posted to Youth Services Team Leader, Timaru District Libraries, PO Box 228, Timaru 7940

**or** a downloaded copy (not a link) emailed to [librarycompetitions@timdc.govt.nz](mailto:librarycompetitions@timdc.govt.nz)

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