

WARRANT OFFICER OF THE AIR FORCE
CREATIVE WRITING
AWARD

2021

TERMS AND CONDITIONS



**AIR AND SPACE
POWER CENTRE**

The Warrant Officer of the Air Force (WOFF-AF) Creative Writing Award (The Award) aims to promote the development of air and space power analysis from within the enlisted aviator workforce. The objective of The Award is to encourage and inspire enlisted aviators to consume, contribute and contest contemporary air and space power issues; and to research, analyse and debate possibilities for air and space power beyond the future force.

Submissions are not limited to essays or formal writing, and can take on any form such as fiction, think-pieces, Op-eds or blog-style articles. High quality submissions will be considered for entry into the Wrigley prize.

Awards

The winner of The Award:

- Will be given an opportunity to discuss their submission with WOFF-AF.
- Will be invited to participate in an immersion program.
- Will be considered for entry into the Wrigley prize.
- Will be published and promoted on the Air and Space Power Centre (ASPC) and/or related websites.
- May be provided an opportunity to work with the ASPC furthering their topic or area of interest.

The ASPC will also publish and promote any other high quality submissions identified as part of The Award. Additionally, the ASPC will work with identified authors to prepare submissions for entry into the Wrigley Prize if a parallel entry was not already submitted.

Recognition of Australian Military Entries

The Air Force strategy highlights the requirement for Air Force to develop strategic thinkers who lead and the importance of a culture that encourages a contest of ideas. In order to achieve this The Award promotes the development of critical analysis and the ability to present a coherent discussion.

Submissions deemed to be of sufficiently high quality by the assessment panel may receive one or more of the following:

- Publication of their entry on the ASPC or related websites.
- A congratulatory letter from WOFF-AF, which will be added to the member's personnel file and copied to their Commanding Officer.
- Waiver of one or more Program Wirraway air power modules (up to level 2 inclusive),¹ or
- Waiver of the Joint individual PME air power module (up to JIPME level 1).
- A short term secondment to the ASPC in support of an air and space power project.

Entrant Eligibility

The Award is open to all Air Force Enlisted Aviators (AC to WOFF) from all SERCATs, with only one entry permissible per person.

Entrants who have more than one submission published within the 12 month period will be offered the opportunity to select which of their submissions they would like considered.

Submission & Deadline

The Award runs across the calendar year and all enlisted aviator submissions are considered.² The winner of The Award will be announced by WOFF-AF on or around 31 Mar as part of Air Force Birthday activities.

Submissions are to be lodged electronically through the ASPC website WOFF-AF Creative Writing Award submission portal which will only be available for the duration of the award period, and closes automatically at the designated time.

In conjunction with The Award submissions, authors are strongly encouraged to enter the Wrigley Prize. Note that only think-pieces and essays are eligible for parallel Wrigley Prize submissions.

1 Air power module waivers will depend on the complexity and relevance of the submission.

2 Submissions may be considered from other published sources such as The Central Blue, Forge, Cove and other professional blogs.

Submission Requirements

Word limit

All submissions must be a minimum of 800 words, with a maximum of 2000 words.

Originality

Submissions must be original works and must not have been formally published or submitted for publication (ie, journal papers, academic submissions, etc). Submissions that have been previously published as blogs (ie, Air/Space Blog, Grounded Curiosity, etc) are eligible for entry.

Submissions that have been previously submitted for academic assessment may only be entered with a written release provided by the relevant academic institution. Such a release must transfer any IP and ownership claims on the submission to the ASPC.

Declaration

The Award winner will be required to confirm that:

- The entrant has read, understands, and accepts the terms and conditions within this handbook.
- The submission is the entrant's own unassisted work.
- The submission has not been formally published.
- The entrant accepts as final the judgment of the WOFF-AF.
- The entrant hereby transfers their copyright and IP claims over to the ASPC.
- The entrant agrees to be published by the ASPC and has received permission from any organisation that has previously published their work (ie blogs) for the submission to be promoted.

Language

All submissions must be written in English.

Where confusion occurs in relation to a definition or use of language the Macquarie Concise Dictionary will be employed as the definitive source.

Topics

Topics must focus on a future or contemporary air power or space power issue, national strategic

research topics, or from topics as provided by WOFF-AF from time to time which will be promoted on the ASPC Website.

Security Classification

Submissions are not to contain classified material. Official is the maximum security protected material that will be accepted.

Format

Electronic Submissions are to have the following format:

- Identification: Papers filenames are not to include names of authors
- Paper Size: International size A4
- Font: Times New Roman or Aerial,
- Minimum Font size: 12 point
- 1.5 line spacing
- File format: Portable Document Format (pdf).
- Referencing (if applicable) – [Australian Government Style Guide \(Author – Date\)](#) in text, similar to the Harvard academic referencing standard.

Referencing

For fiction, Op-ed and non-academic style submissions, referencing is encouraged but is not mandatory. Essay submissions should include footnotes and a bibliography giving full acknowledgement to source material, using accepted layout and referencing systems that cite the author, date and page of the book, article or other text from which the material is derived.

Adjudication process

Submissions will be reviewed by an assessment board comprised of selected members of the Senior Enlisted Leadership Team. Entries will be placed in a recommended order for final assessment and selection by WOFF-AF.

The board may elect not to award a prize if there is insufficient competition (quantity and/or quality) for a given year. Likewise, the board reserves the right to recognise in an appropriate manner submissions of a high standard that do not win the overall prize.

Blind Adjudication

The assessment panel will not be provided with a name or pseudonym—a random number will be generated to facilitate a blind adjudication and peer review process.

The entrant/author is to ensure their legal name and appropriate contact details are completed when finalising their entry. Winning and high-quality essays will be published under the author’s name unless they specifically request to remain anonymous.

Adjudication Matrix

The table below provides the matrix used in determining the winner of The Award.

Element	5 Points	3 Points	1 Point
Strength of Idea and discussion	Implications and underlying assumptions of the argument have been clearly discussed. There are clear and strong arguments which extend the submission scope.	Implications and underlying assumptions of the argument have been clearly identified. There are discernible arguments but they may sometimes fall into description.	Implications and underlying assumptions of the argument have sometimes been identified or are not logical. There is an underlying argument but often falls into description.
Realistic, feasible and considered argument	The topic, argument and analysis presented is imaginative, considered and feasible for the Force in being or future force. Demonstrates a sophisticated understanding of the topic.	The topic, argument and analysis presented is considered and feasible with modifications to the Force in being or future force Demonstrates an understanding of the topic.	The topic argument and analysis is sound however, feasibility is high risk or partially supported by the submission. Minor errors in understanding that do not contribute to the contest of ideas.
Understanding of Air Power or Space Power	The submission explores Air Power or Space Power in depth challenging the reader and encouraging application discussion.	The submission explores Air Power or Space Power application.	Minor lapses in how the concept could be applied to an Air Power or Space Power concept.
Structure, Language and writing	The use of language assists the reader’s understanding and avoids confusion. Varied sentence style. Precise, interesting, and vivid word choice uses clear examples to illustrate ideas.	Minor errors in spelling and language. Minimal impact on readers understanding. Attempts to use examples to illustrate ideas.	Multiple errors in spelling and language. Some impact on the readers understanding Does not illustrate ideas effectively.

Announcements

WOFF-AF will advise all winners and high-quality entrants in writing at least one week prior to the announcements being made on or around 31 Mar as part of Air Force Birthday activities.

Where practical, the ASPC will endeavour to ensure the winner is available either in person or electronically for the announcement and discussion on their submission with WOFF-AF.

Publication, Copyright and IP

Copyright of all submissions will rest with the ASPC. All submissions may be published on the ASPC website and those deemed of suitable quality promoted through social media and related websites.

Where documents have been published by other entities ASPC will seek the publisher’s approval to cross promote under dual branding.

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