

HUNTER WRITERS CENTRE



Hunter Writers Centre Inc. is a not-for-profit, incorporated organisation devoted to engaging, educating and employing writers of Australia

Strategic Plan 2019-2021

Definition and Purpose

This Strategic Plan outlines the vision, policy and sustainable activities that are designed to enhance the reputation, reach and resourcefulness of the Hunter Writers Centre (HWC). Based on discussion and feedback from HWC Director and Board Members, this paper articulates the agreed strategic direction of the Hunter Writers Centre from 2019-2021

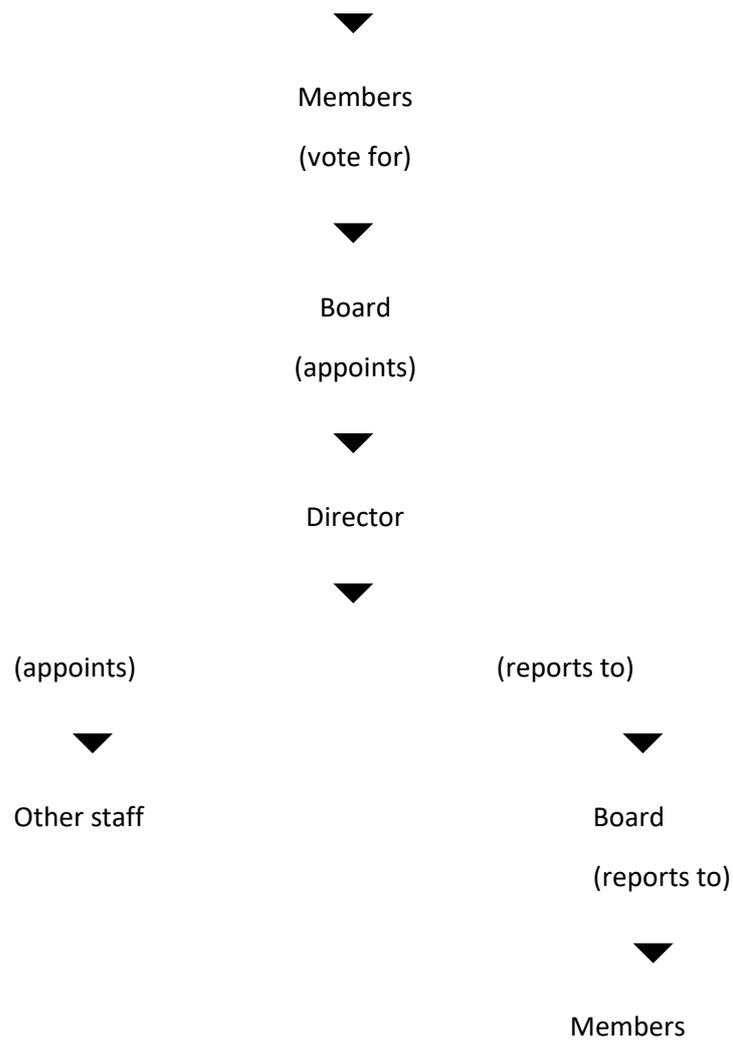
Mission

Hunter Writers Centre is a not-for-profit, incorporated organisation devoted to engaging, educating and employing aspiring and established writers in the Hunter Region of New South Wales and nationally throughout Australia.

Vision

Hunter Writers Centre aspires to be a leader in delivering a vibrant, active and contemporary range of activities that promote writing excellence in Australia, specifically in the Hunter Region of New South Wales. Building upon the Centre's success to date, we endeavour to maintain and grow our region's writing diversity and talent. Through our membership program, national writing awards and community events, we support the tradition of storytelling and strive to share literary outputs in both traditional and fresh and innovative ways.

Organisational Structure Hunter Writers Centre Inc.



HWC is an incorporated, not-for-profit organisation established in 1995. The organisational structure includes both paid and volunteer positions.

Hunter Writers Centre is supported through grant funding, fees from various activities: membership, competitions, workshops and events, and book sales.

Engaging Writers

- Provide quality support to members via writing groups, live readings, publishing opportunities, writing programs, specialised writing workshops, social events.

- Partner with local, regional, state and national organisations: University of Newcastle, libraries, relevant NFPs, charities and private businesses, Create NSW, potential sponsors and donors, other writers centres.
- Young writers: Her_Art_Open (Heart Open) - HWC funds the artists of Quarterly events delivered by Heart Open: 4 featured female identifying or non-binary artists - poets, dancers, comedians, musicians, actors, authors, painters, sculptors, musicians etc

Continue to source appropriate locations for ongoing activities reflecting our regional reach:

- Newcastle: Merewether, Wickham, Wallsend, Newcastle city, Adamstown.
- Lake Macquarie: Speers Point, Toronto, Belmont
- Maitland: East Maitland, Maitland
- Upper Hunter: Muswellbrook, Dungog, Scone, Singleton

National Projects:

- Grieve – national writing project in honour of Grief Awareness month – 2020 = 8 th year
- Newcastle Poetry Prize – 2020 = 39th year
- Newcastle Short Story Award – short story writing competition

The above 3 literary awards result in anthologies typeset and published.

Special Projects 2019 - 2020:

- LakeMac History Festival – History Week, September – in partnership with Lake Macquarie Libraries
- Meet the Mob – in partnership with Aboriginal editor Donna Fernando and radio presenter Jill Emberson
- Living with Disability – guest blogger, Lauren Hislop

Special Project 2021:

A significant, ambitious special project is planned for 2021. Details announced January 2021

Educating Writers

- Provide specialised monthly workshops for the whole community including: eg. Writing for Children, Editing, Poetry, Speculative Fiction, Understanding Story Structure, Memoir and Life Writing and more.
- Ten writing groups (member-led) are held monthly throughout the Hunter region or online: poetry, writing for children, speculative fiction, creative writing

- Mentoring and editing services available to members by 6 qualified editors/proof readers/mentors: Megan Buxton, Mark MacLean, Claire Bradshaw, Ross Gillett, Graham Davidson, Karen Crofts

Employing Writers

Employ writers as tutors, mentors, writers and publishers for the advancement of the HWC's Vision.

Pay members for specialised projects to deliver their own work to the region: performing work, publishing, editing, writing, blogging.

Reward writers for quality work via contests and competitions

Standing Operation and Governance

HWC will continue its standing activities, including:

- Appropriate governance and operational practices
- Appropriate levels of employee resources
- Ongoing partnerships with grant funding bodies
- Fundraising / sponsorship activities as appropriate

Conclusion

With annual measurement against the goals outlined in this Strategic Plan, the HWC can expect to fulfil its vision to be a leader in delivering a vibrant, active and contemporary range of activities that promote writing excellence in Australia