QUEENSLAND WRITERS CENTRE

Level 2, State Library of Queensland, Cultural Centre
PO Box 3488, South Brisbane, Qld 4101
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QWC RESOURCE SHEET # 3
Poetry

Will QWC staff read my poetry?
QWC staff are unable to read your poetry but will point you in the direction of people who can!

Who *will* read my poetry?
Overleaf is a list of resources for poets that offer a platform for you to experiment, learn, grow, write, read and experience poetry. They also offer opportunities for critical and artistic learning and are all trustworthy information sources.

Should you wish to link up with like-minded writers QWC can also provide a list of writers groups. If you have a completed poetry manuscript, you might like to consider one of QWC's editorial consultancies. This is a members' only service, offering an opportunity to discuss a project face-to-face with an experienced editor or author at a low cost ($150 for 90 minutes).This is not a manuscript appraisal nor an edit, but rather a session that will provide the information you need to have your project reach the goals you have in mind. Telephone sessions are available for regionally located members. For further information, email qldwriters@qwc.asn.au.

Where can I get my poetry published?
Each month QWC's magazine, *Writing Queensland,* lists new competitions and opportunities for writers of all genres including poetry. Be very wary of any competitions requesting that the poet pays money to see their work in print (see **Poet Beware** overleaf).

There are limited markets for publishing poetry manuscripts in Australia, so targeting journals and anthologies is beneficial. There are small presses that specialise in publishing and promoting poetry, such as Small Change Press, Post Pressed, Five Island Press, John Leonard Press and Sunline Press to name a few.

Poetry publishers are unlikely to consider a manuscript unless at least 50 per cent of the work in it has been previously published in journals and anthologies, or has won competitions.

If you're a poet, keep your eye out for Queensland Poetry Festival, which is an annual festival of poetry featuring the best local and international poets. You can also sign up for QWC's free fortnightly ebulletin, which lists competitions and opportunities for writers, at www.qwc.asn.au.

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Resources for Poets:

Poetry Kit

This site outlines poetry festivals and events, publications, competitions and opportunities all over the world. It is mediated by a man called Jim Bennet who can be contacted directly via the website www.poetrykit.org.

The Australian Writer's Marketplace (AWM)

AWM lists over 156 opportunities and resources for poets, including performance, publication, courses and competitions. For an online subscription go to www.awmonline.com.au; for hard copies go to www.qwc.asn.au.

The Queensland Poetry Festival: spoken in one strange word

QPF is a world-class literary festival that attracts an audience from all over Australia – and it happens right here in Brisbane. Its website has links to great poetry-related events going on in Queensland, so for further information go to www.queenslandpoetryfestival.com.

Speedpoets

Speedpoets is a live platform for emerging voices. Join the mailing list on the website for fortnightly bulletins of local poetry events. For further information go to www.speedpoets.org.

Poetry Slam

The Australian Poetry Slam is a competition for poets. Heats are held in each state and finalists go to Sydney to compete for a $10,000 prize and the title of Australian Slam Poet. The Australian Poetry Slam is held annually; information may only be available from August – October each year. For further information go to www.slq.qld.gov.au/poetryslam.

Poet Beware – Scams

Any competition or magazine that asks for money to read your poetry (beyond a reasonable entry fee – the ASA suggests where a prize is more than $1,000 a $5 entry fee is acceptable) is unlikely to be a reputable. To read an article written by one poor poet who paid to attend the International Poetry Conference go to http://www.windpub.com/literary.scams/bigmoney.htm.

For further details on scam competitions visit:
http://www.sfwa.org/Beware/
http://windpub.com/literary.scams/
http://www.winningwriters.com/contests/avoid/av_avoid.php

Be *very* wary of a group called poetry.com – see this link for details http://poetrynotcom.tripod.com/.