

## **Publishers' Block Grants Scheme 2008**

The July 2008 project funding round will be the second year of the Publishers' Block Grants Scheme. This scheme is for established professional book publishers who make a significant contribution to New Zealand literature. Publishers' Block Grants were re-introduced in July 2007 following significant consultation with the publishing industry.

### **Features of the scheme**

The Publishers' Block Grant Scheme assists publishing houses that demonstrate the potential to play an active role in the development of New Zealand literature. It has:

- a streamlined application process with a single application for up to seven books
- a July application and October decision, with the grant being for a period of 12 months i.e. the following calendar year or end October 2008 to end October 2009 with first publications occurring after end October 2008 (following the announcement of the July project funding round)
- an upper cap of seven titles
- a set rate per book based on the current subsidies, which are:
  - a. poetry/plays/novellas/junior fiction up to 100 pages: \$2000
  - b. poetry/plays/fiction/non-fiction/young adult fiction between 100 and 200 pages: \$2500
  - c. children's picture books up to 16 pages: \$2000
  - d. children's picture books over 16 pages: \$3000
  - e. all genres over 200 pages: \$3000
  - f. large, heavily illustrated books: \$5000-10,000

### **Criteria for block grant proposals**

Publishers wishing to apply must submit two copies of their application which will include:

- a list of the types of books they intend to publish: e.g. three novels, two books of poetry (no manuscripts or proposed titles/author names are required)
- a copy of the publishing house's most recent printed catalogue (or equivalent)
- evidence of the quality of the publishing programme, including excellence of the writing, selection of authors, editorial choices and quality of the editing. This could also include highlights of the current and forthcoming lists and recent awards, critical response to the books and contribution to the development of New Zealand literature.
- evidence of professional excellence, including the details of the production quality and the promotion and distribution channels
- a full budget for each book, itemising all projected income and expenditure associated with the project using the template provided
- a completed project funding application form, see link below for form;  
<http://www.creativenz.govt.nz/files/application-form-2008.pdf>

Alongside this, new or small publishing houses or publishers with a small track record of publishing in New Zealand (two to three years) can still apply for one-off publishing grants from the Literature Assessment Committee. Full manuscripts must be supplied as part of the usual project funding application for these one-off requests. Publishers can also continue to apply for one-off publishing grants from across other artform programmes, and also to Te Waka Toi and the Pacific Arts Committee.

If the application is successful, publishers must supply to Creative New Zealand a confirmed publishing list before the grant can be drawn down. Publishers will have the opportunity to supply updated financial information after the closing date for applications.

Publishers must have submitted all due reports for their previous grants. Under this new scheme, Creative New Zealand will require publishers to write acquittal reports so that they are reporting against the criteria (actuals against projections).

**Changes to project funding**

From February 2009, Creative New Zealand is changing its project funding system. These changes will help us to be more responsive to the arts sector's needs and to ensure that investment in the development of projects, initiatives and support for the sector meet our strategic priorities. These changes will affect all project funding including the Publishers' Block Grants Scheme. Block Publishing Grants will still be available however the process of how to apply will change. Information on the new system is now available on the front page of our website [www.creativenz.govt.nz](http://www.creativenz.govt.nz) with more detailed information including the 2009 Funding Guide available by November 2008.

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