



# 2019 Annual Report

David Linke  
2 December 2019



## President's Message

2019 has been a great year for YABBA and bittersweet for me.

I have watched the YABBA Team deliver an incredible array of programs, activities and a superb Awards Ceremony. But throughout this time I have been torn by my decision to hand-over the baton of YABBA leadership.

In 2013 I became YABBA President with the passing of Graham Davey. The Council at that moment, and each since, entrusted me with the leadership of this incredible organisation. Throughout my tenure as President, I have worked at moving the organisation forward in delivering our mission of amplifying children's voice across the Australian literature landscape.

Leading YABBA through this time has been an incredible workload, but an enormous reward.

I thank each and every YABBA Council member during the past seven years. As a team we would never have achieved the heights we have without a concerted team effort.

I look forward to the next phase of YABBA evolving with the renewed energy and support of a new President.

Truly humbled to lead this organisation,



David Linke  
YABBA President

## Council Members

The annual YABBA program is conceived and delivered by volunteers.

Each and every council member should be proud of the work the council has delivered this year, without your hard work and dedication YABBA wouldn't exist.

The 2019 YABBA Council included –

David Linke	President
John Crabb	Secretary
Michelle Nye	Awards Convenor
Mark Matic	Treasurer
Robyn Donoghue	Social Media Coordinator
Peter Marriott	Committee Member
Joy Burlak	Committee Member
Abigail Cini	Website Coordinator
Anne Devenish	Awards Ceremony Host





## 2019 YABBA Winners and Citations



**Maybe**, written by Morris Gleitzman, published 2017 by Penguin Random House Australia

**The 104 Storey Treehouse**, written by Andy Griffiths, illustrated by Terry Denton, published 2018 by Pan MacMillan

**Bad Guys: Do-You-Think-He-Saurus**, written and illustrated by Aaron Blabey, published 2018 by Scholastic Australia

**Seriously, Do Not Open This Book**, written by Andy Lee and illustrated by Heath McKenzie published 2018 by Lake Press

## The Graham Davey Citation –



## Gabrielle Wang

Gabrielle has an impressive body of work as an author and illustrator.

Books of hers have been shortlisted three times across the years (2011, 2012 & 2014).

All 2019 Winners received their citations on Tuesday 29 October 2019 at **Camberwell Girls Grammar**. The YABBA Council thank the school community for their generous donation of the venue and the work in partnering with YABBA to produce the event.

After the awards ceremony the 393 children from 19 schools in attendance participated in the traditional signing ceremony. The YABBA Council thank the 31 authors and illustrators for donating their time on the day, we are truly honoured to have them in attendance and for their ongoing support.

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Adam Wallace	<b>Felice Arena</b>	Nicole Hayes
Alex Miles	Gabrielle Wang	<b>Sally Rippin</b>
<b>Andy Lee</b>	<b>George Ivanoff</b>	<b>Samantha Wheeler</b>
<b>Anna Ciddor</b>	<b>Heath McKenzie</b>	Serena Geddes
<b>Anna Walker</b>	<b>Jacqueline Harvey</b>	Sherryl Clark
<b>Belinda Murrell</b>	<b>James Hart</b>	Spider Lee
Carole Wilkinson	Kesta Fleming	Sue Bursztynski
Carol Vass	Marjory Gardner	<b>Terry Denton</b>
Claire Saxby	Meredith Costain	<b>Tim Harris</b>
<b>Deborah Abela</b>	Michael Wagner	<b>Wayne Bryant</b>

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*Authors and Illustrators highlighted in bold text were shortlisted in 2019*

## 2019 Voting

2019 saw a consistent number of votes, though highlighted the challenge of individual schools no longer participating. When schools with large number of votes no longer participate we can see dramatic changes in total votes.

This year showed strong growth of votes from small regional government schools, this highlights the success of the Virtual Author

We received votes from **10,961** children in 2019.

## Sponsorship

The YABBA Council has worked diligently at collecting membership fees to fund the operation of the annual program. Funding has been used to run the website, disseminate publicity, thank authors and illustrators for attending the Awards Ceremony, and general operating costs.

YABBA received significant cash and in-kind contributions from these companies



In 2019 the YABBA Community and the entire REAL Awards consortium need to acknowledge the incredible generosity of Lamont Books for their donation of \$1500 to print the 2019 REAL Awards poster.

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Allen & Unwin  
Billy Goat Books  
Hachette Australia  
Hardie Grant Egmont  
HarperCollins Australia  
King Street Press  
Lake Press  
Magabala Books

Pan Macmillan  
Pantera Press  
Penguin Random House  
Australia  
Puffin Books  
Random House Australia  
Scholastic Australia  
UQP

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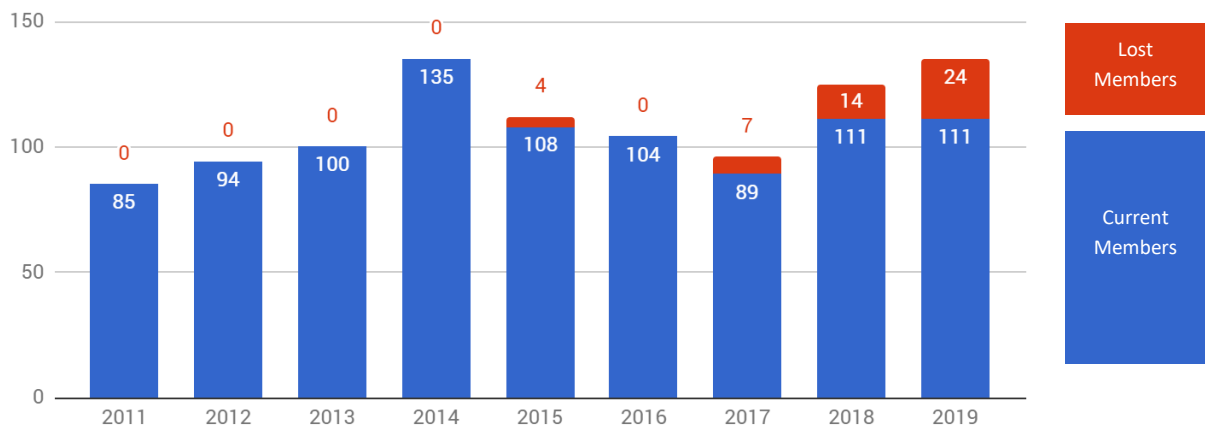


# Membership Development and Engagement

2019 YABBA Members received

- A Shortlist Poster
- 3 copies of the Winners Poster
- Attendance at the Awards Ceremony
- Regular book prizes across the year
- 8 virtual author visits they could attend
- A process to nominate online
- A process to vote online

## Financial Members



## Virtual Ambassadors Project

YABBA and the Department of Education and Training (DET) continued our partnership to delivery virtual author sessions to Victorian schools.

The VAP program consisted of

- All Victorian Primary Schools becoming financial YABBA members for 2019
- 8 virtual author visits of 45 minutes duration delivered to schools across Victoria
- Live streaming of the Awards Ceremony
- A shortlist poster sent to all Victorian Primary Schools



# Thanks and Appreciation

In addition to the thanks already expressed the YABBA Council also provides special thanks to –

Mr Heath McKenzie for kindly and generously donating his artwork for the production of the Shortlist Poster.



Ms Isabel Sootoh for designing the poster which became our official Invitation and Autograph Card design.







EXIT



Jasmine  
YABSA VIP Guide