

JOHANNA BELL

Writer | Community Arts | Producer

Johanna is an award-winning author, community arts practitioner, Churchill Fellow and audio producer. Drawn to hybrid forms of storytelling, 'slow storytelling methods' and cross-cultural collaboration, Johanna's work spans children's fiction, poetry, audio storytelling and live performance. She is passionate about elevating unheard voices, addressing social inequities and tackling complex questions about class, culture and climate in Australia.

COMMUNITY ARTS WORK

***"Johanna is one of those visionary, prolific individuals who is entirely effervescent and who leaves every space she inhabits markedly changed, more connected, and better expressed. In everything she does, she takes other creatives with her, making new opportunities for emerging and diverse artists to make new work, to be published, to be employed, and to be inspiring."* (Fiona Dorrell, NT Writers' Centre)**

Founder & Director, *StoryProjects*, 2015 –

Executive Producer of The Collection, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, 2020

Director & co-producer, *BIRDS EYE VIEW Podcast*, 2018 - 20

Director & Co-producer of *OCTOPUS* story camp for diverse writers & artists, 2018 - 19

Founder & Creative Director, *SPUN & the SPUN Stories Podcast*, 2015 -

Creative Director, *ATMOS: Listening parties for story lovers*, 2017 -

Creative Producer, *Locals who love birds*, City of Darwin, 2016

Creative Producer, *Photo Fence*, City of Darwin, 2015

Creative Producer, *Feast of Stories*, National Rural Health Alliance, 2015

Producer, Bilingual baby board books Project, 2014

Community Arts Officer, Katherine Regional Arts, 2013

PUBLICATIONS

***"A glimpse at Bell's CV will show that excellence has been the hallmark of her forays into various creative forms. I have no doubt [she] will continue that prize-winning streak."* (Geordie Williamson, Chief Literary Critic, The Australian)**

Hope is the thing, Allen & Unwin, 2023

Papa Mawal-mawalpa Tjuta, Allen & Unwin, 2021

The Colour Catchers, Scholastic, 2020

Bigismob Jigiwan Dog, Allen & Unwin, 2020

Cheeky Dogs: To Lake Nash and Back, Allen & Unwin, 2019

Go Home Cheeky Animals, Allen & Unwin, 2016

Too Many Cheeky Dogs, Allen & Unwin 2013

Counting Birds, *Borderlands*, 2020
Turning things inside out, *The Griffith Review*, 2019
One night at the camp, *Australian Poetry*, 2018
Bush Stone-curlew, *Flightpath*, Hallowell Press, 2017
First Kiss, *Inside Out*, University of Melbourne, 2017
Silver Linings, *Overland*, 2016

MENTORING & EDITORIAL SUPPORT

Signal Boost Audio Mentoring, Wheeler Centre, 2022 / 2023
Do I seduce you? By Tarzan JungleQueen, 2021
Main Abija / My Grandad by Karen Rogers, Allen & Unwin, 2021
Walking in Gagudju Country: Exploring the Monsoon Forest by Diane Lucas
and Ben Tyler, illustrated by Emma Long, Allen & Unwin, 2021
Yellow Truck Road Train by Mandy Tootell, Allen & Unwin, 2020
The Real Map of Batchelor According to Me by John Scrutton
and Robyn Frances, self-published, 2020
This is Warlukurlangu, North 2020
This is Stone Country, North 2021

MAJOR PRIZES & FELLOWSHIPS

Churchill Fellowship (community storytelling)
Varuna Writers' Fellowship, 2021
New York Radio Award for Social Change, 2021
The Prime Minister's Literary Award, 2020 (shortlisted)
Northern Territory Literary Award for Poetry, 2020 & 2018
Australian Podcast of the Year, Australian Podcast Awards, 2020
Documentary of the Year, Australian Podcast Awards, 2020
Walkey Media Diversity Australia Award, 2020 (shortlisted)
Walkley Freelance Journalist of the Year, 2020 (shortlisted)
Northern Territory Creative Fellowship (new voices in publishing), 2019
Children's Book of the Year (Early Years), CBCA, 2017
The Northern Territory Literary Award for Short Fiction, 2016
Overland Literary Magazine, Short Story Wine Prize, 2016
The Alan Marshall Short Story Competition, 2017 (shortlisted)
The Northern Territory Literary Award for Poetry, 2017, 2019, 2021 (shortlisted)
Speech Pathology Australia's Book of the Year, 2016, 2019 (shortlisted)
The Territory Read Award, 2014 (shortlisted)

RESEARCH & EVALUATION

Lead researcher and scriptwriter for On the Inside: audio tour of Fannie Bay Gaol, 2023
Lead researcher and writer for All Ears: Amplifying Territory Stories, 2021
Lead scriptwriter for immersive audio developments, Museum of Western Australia, 2020
Research & Evaluation Officer, Northern Territory Library, 2013 - 2016
Evaluation Manager, Menzies School of Health Research, 2009 – 2012
Research Consultant, Cultural and Indigenous Research Centre Australia, 2007 – 2009
Youth Participation Officer, NSW Department of Environment & Conservation, 2006 – 2007
Youth Programs Coordinator, Inspire Foundation, 2004 – 2006

EDUCATION

Masters in Program Evaluation, Melbourne University, 2011
B.A Communications (Social Inquiry), 2004