



Australian Society of Authors

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of the Australian Society of Authors in support of Express Media's application to the Australian Government's 'Youth Development and Support Program' to initiate a National Young Writers' Month in January of next year.

Key to the Australian Society of Authors mission is the promotion of Australian writing and literary culture. In this context we see the establishment of a National Young Writers' Month as a wonderful way to make it more possible for young people in this country to become more motivated and inspired to write. We also see Express Media as the most obvious organisation to carry out this initiative as they have the people and experience to be able to deliver in a timely and professional manner.

As the ASA also serves to protect the basic rights to freedom of expression, we acknowledge that young people often struggle to find ways to get their voices heard, especially by older generations. The provision of a platform for younger voices, including a time period available for dedicated writing, will be an invaluable tool for our next generation of writers. With industry professionals and youth state ambassadors giving them tips and hints about writing and also urging them to get involved, we believe that the value of writing activity in the community will be supported and strengthened.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angelo Loukakis', written in a cursive style.

Angelo Loukakis
Executive Director