Japanese history wins Chief Ministers NT History Book Award

The winner of the 2007 Chief Minister's NT History Book Award, part of the NT Literary Awards, is Dr Pam Oliver for *Empty North – The Japanese Presence and Australians Reactions 1860s to 1942*.

*Empty North* is published by Charles Darwin University Press and discusses the positive nature of the Japanese immigration to the North of Australia from the 1860’s.

Minister for Local Government Elliot McAdam will present the award at the NT Literary Awards being held at a Parliament House reception tonight.

“The standard of entries was extremely high with nine books from accomplished authors and historians across a wide range of topics,” Mr McAdam said.

“These awards recognise a book that documents the history of the Territory and was published in 2006.

“A vital link to our future is documenting our past. From military to cultural history, there is something for everyone.”

The 4th Chief Ministers NT History Book Awards received a total of nine entries which was shortlisted to three finalists.

The 2007 Chief Ministers NT History Book entries are:

* indicate short listed finalists

*Glenice Yee - Through Chinese eyes: the Chinese experience in the Northern Territory 1874-2004*

*Liam Campbell - Darby: one hundred years in a changing culture*

*Pam Oliver - Empty North: the Japanese presence and Australian reactions 1860s to 1942*

Barry McGowan - *Fool's Gold: Myths and Legends of Gold Seeking in Australia*

Jack Mulholland - *Darwin Bombed: an A/A gunner's reflections*

Peter and Sheila Forrest - *They Started Something: a Biography of Bern and Aileen Kilgariff*

Regina Ganter - *Mixed relations: Asian-Aboriginal contact in North Australia*

Shirley Brown - *Icons of the Territory*

Toni Bauman - *Aboriginal Darwin: a guide to exploring important sites of the past and present*
Over 250 entries were received for the 23rd NT Literary Awards. All finalists will have their work published in an NT Literary Awards Book. Finalists are: **indicates category winner

**Dymocks Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Writers’ Award finalists 2007**
**Ellen Maria Pocock (Nabajin) - A question of identity**
Jack Manguji - Free me country

**Dymocks Red Earth Poetry Award finalists 2007**
**Bill Coburn - Kadaitcha**
Ali Cobby Eckermann - One child two child wailing & wild
Jill Pettigrew - Black cockatoos
Samantha Sabaratnam - Metaphor on a face
Meg Mooney - My father
Katy Harrison - Thylacine Thylacine Thylacine

**Dymocks Arafura Short Story Award finalists 2007**
**Bruce Hocking - Shrink**
Carmel Williams - The rent
Patrick Nelson - The jelly beans’ picnic
Marion Townsend - Footsteps
Janet Sparrow - Wharf
Megan Jacobson - Sunwords

**Charles Darwin University Essay Award finalists 2007**
**Nigel Turvey - On natural selection and the characteristic qualities of the greater number of sailors**
Heidi Becker - A view of Statehood for the Northern Territory Government and its People
Leanne Taylor - The Singaporisation of Darwin
Linda Wirf - Cultural landscape of Mindal-ang-gwa (Mindal Beach)

**Kath Manzie Youth Literary Award finalists 2007**
**Oceana Setaysha - Yellow-dress girl**
Kate Farrell - Honey ant dreaming

For more information about the Northern Territory Literary Awards or the Chief Ministers NT History Book Award please visit www.ntl.nt.gov.au.

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