

UC Health Poetry Prize 2026: Longlist

The Prize for this year is now in the judging process, and the longlisted poems are set out below. Thanks to all poets who submitted their work to the Prize, and to Dr Melody Ellis who has selected the longlist. Stay tuned for the announcement of the shortlist, which will be posted here in September.

A Frances Johnson	Heartstrings: <i>Chordae tendineae</i>
Alana Kelsall	holding / up
Anne Elvey	To belong in the kitchen of story
Beth Spencer	For those who hover in the shadow of campfires
Caroline Williamson	Mapmaking
Catriona Della-Martina	Pancakes
Denise O'Hagan	The desperation of language
Eileen Rafter	Boosterstown
Eileen Rafter	Precipice
Emilie Collyer	Slow run
Emilie Collyer	Summer test
Felicity Plunkett	Fine-tuning
Gayelene Carbis	Too much
Heather Taylor-Johnson	Long haul
Jake Dennis	On a noon sleeper who resembles my wife
Jena Woodhouse	The ride
Jena Woodhouse	Sulphur-crested cockatoos
Margaret Barbalet	Children's Hospital
Marina Eugster	Notes from the edge
Moya Pacey	Tethered
Rosa O'Kane	Sandglass
Scott Jackson	Familial
Solace Mitchell	As if
Tricia Dearborn	Simultaneities
Vanessa Proctor	Prescriptions