

Citation: Mr Neil Gaiman – 3 March 2020

Chancellor, the University of South Australia awards the Honorary Degree of Doctor of the University to a person of eminence who has made a distinguished contribution to public service, or a field of academic endeavour or artistic pursuit.

It is my pleasure to present Neil Richard MacKinnon Gaiman for the honorary degree of Doctor of the University in recognition of his distinguished service to the community.

Neil Gaiman is one of the most prolific authors of our generation and is credited with being one of the creators of modern comics, as well as an author whose work crosses genres and reaches audiences of all ages.

He is listed in the Dictionary of Literary Biography as one of the top 10 post-modern writers.

His work has been honoured with many awards internationally, including the Newbery and Carnegie Medals.

His books and stories have also been honoured with a large number of awards for best science fiction or fantasy works,

including Hugos, Nebulas, Bram Stokers, Locus, Geffens and Mythopoeics.

He is the New York Times bestselling author of the novels *Neverwhere*, *Stardust*, *American Gods* – which won the aforementioned Hugo and Nebula awards – *Anansi Boys* and *Good Omens*,

as well as the short story collections *Smoke and Mirrors* and *Fragile Things*.

In addition to his work as a writer, author and screenwriter, Mr Gaiman is an advocate and patron for several causes, including:

- Patron of the Open Rights Group, the UK's only digital campaigning organisation working to protect the rights to privacy and free speech online;
- Patron of the Science Fiction Foundation, a semi-autonomous association of writers, academics, critics and others with an active interest in science fiction; and
- Supporter and board member of the Comic Book Legal Defence Fund, a non-profit organisation dedicated to protecting the First Amendment rights of the comics medium.

Chancellor, on behalf of the University of South Australia, I am pleased to present Mr Neil Richard MacKinnon Gaiman for the honorary degree of Doctor of the University, in recognition of his distinguished service to the community.