

*Free
Download*

20 Awards You Should Submit Your Self-Published Book To



A list of notable annual awards to submit your author-published fiction, nonfiction, children's books, memoir, essays and poetry.

7 Benefits to Winning Book Awards

- Expands readership
- Validates your writing
- Generates new sales and reviews
- Offers new opportunity for media coverage
- Name recognition on respected publishing platforms
- Great introduction for pitching your work to literary agents, book store owners, librarians and distributors
- Prize money to invest in your writing and publishing endeavors

How to use this list:

- Whether you are in the editing phase of your manuscript or if you released a book last year or last month, check out this list and review the submission guidelines for all of the awards.
- Earmark the awards that your book qualifies for.
- Mark your calendar with the submission deadline and fee.
- Ready your work in print and digital formats.
- Take advantage of early bird pricing when applicable.



These awards accept self published books across multiple categories including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, memoirs and children's books.

INDEPENDENT AUTHOR NETWORK
BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The Independent Author Network presents the 2020 IAN Book of the Year Awards, an international contest open to all authors with 40 fiction and non-fiction categories. An Outstanding Book (category winner) will be awarded in each category with recognition of Finalists. Winning books will be shared at the IAN Facebook page with over 120,000 fans.>Winning books will be shared with our 575,000 followers at twitter.

<https://www.independentauthornetwork.com/book-of-the-year.html>

THE WISHING SHELF AWARDS

The Wishing Shelf Book Awards boasts 100% satisfaction from every publisher and author who has entered. With our award, every entrant , finalist or not, gets all the feedback from the judging, a catchy quote for the back of their next book or reprint and a review on Amazon and Goodreads. Then, if you are a finalist, you also get a medal, a logo, a certificate, marketing on the web and their book advertised on Goodreads.com. <https://www.thewsa.co.uk/>





**TOM HOWARD JOHN H REID FICTION
ESSAY CONTEST**

For this contest, a story is any short work of fiction, and an essay is any short work of nonfiction. Please submit as many entries as you like. All themes accepted. Entries may be published or unpublished. Length limit: 6,000 words maximum. No restriction on age of author.

<https://winningwriters.com/our-contests/tom-howard-john-h-reid-fiction-essay-contest>

FOREWORD INDIES BOOK AWARD

Since its creation in 1998, the Foreword Indies Book of the Year Awards has served to showcase the talent of established university and independent press titles, as well as emerging authors who self-publish. Well aware of the challenges faced by small publishers, the goal is to highlight deserving books—those that not only meet their editorial standards, but also blow their minds—to an audience of librarians, booksellers, industry professionals, and other book lovers, domestically and internationally. <https://www.forewordreviews.com/awards/>



NEXT GENERATION INDIE BOOK AWARDS

The 2021 Next Generation Indie Book Awards is open to all indie book authors and publishers including independent publishers (small, medium or otherwise), university presses, self-published authors, e-book authors, seasoned authors and even first time authors in the U.S., Canada or internationally who have a book, a manuscript, or a galley proof written in English and published in 2019, 2020 or 2021 or with a 2019, 2020 or 2021 copyright date. <https://www.indiebookawards.com/>

NATIONAL INDIE EXCELLENCE AWARD

The National Indie Excellence® Awards (NIEA) are open to all English language printed books available for sale, including small presses, mid-size independent publishers, university presses, and self-published authors. As a Winner or Finalist in The National Indie Excellence® Awards your book will garner more attention and gain enhanced credibility. <https://www.indieexcellence.com/>

AUTUMN HOUSE PRIZE FOR FICTION

If you're sitting on a manuscript between 200-300 pages, consider submitting it to this annual prize. Autumn House offers the grand prize winner a book contract for publication with a \$2,500 advance, and they also consider other finalists for publication. In addition, Autumn House offers a Nonfiction Contest and a Rising Writer Contest for poetry. All authors whose manuscripts are unpublished, as well as self-published authors are eligible for submission.

<https://www.autumnhouse.org/submissions/fiction/>

THE HUGO BOOK AWARDS

Hugo Awards are based around a system of nominations and votes from the World Science Fiction Society, and are annually awarded to works of science fiction and fantasy. Self-published authors, traditionally published authors, artists, publications, editors, and more, as long as they are creating work in the science fiction or fantasy genre are eligible. Note: You cannot submit your own book; a member of the WSFS must nominate books for consideration. <http://www.thehugoawards.org/>





JAMES RIVER WRITERS
(BEST SELF PUBLISHED NOVEL CONTEST)

The contests runs on a three-year rotation and is closed until until 2022. James River Writers and Richmond magazine recognize the writing talents and entrepreneurial skills of indie authors by continuing The Best Self-Published Novel Contest, which started in 2014. First-prize winner will receive \$500 and a ticket to the annual James River Writers Conference (worth \$250). The winner is announced in a fall issue of Richmond magazine and in October at the conference.

Press releases will also recognize the winner.

www.jamesriverwriters.org/writing-contests-awards/best-self-published-novel-contest/

ERIC HOFFER BOOK AWARD

Since its inception, the Hoffer has become one of the largest international book awards for small, academic, and independent presses. A grand prize of \$2,500 is awarded annually. In addition, Eric Hoffer Book Award honors include various prizes within eighteen all-inclusive categories, separate press distinctions, the Montaigne Medal, the da Vinci Eye, First Horizon Award, and the Medal Provocateur. www.hofferaward.com/

INDEPENDENT PUBLISHER BOOK AWARDS

Conducted annually, the Independent Publisher Book Awards honor the year's best independently published titles from around the world. The awards are intended to bring increased recognition to the thousands of exemplary independent, university, and self-published books released each year.

www.ippyawards.com/

READER'S FAVOURITE

Book awards grab the attention of bookstores, publishers, libraries and readers, which can translate into increased sales. If you place in our contest you will be able to add your Readers' Favorite award seal to your book and all other marketing materials as well as identify your book as an "award-winning book" and you as an "award-winning author." We offer up to 5 award levels in each category: Gold, Silver, Bronze, Honorable Mention and Award Finalist. Additionally, The Readers' Favorite Illustration Award recognizes books with quality illustrations. Entries are judged by Mark Wayne Adams, a multiple award-winning illustrator.

www.readersfavorite.com/





DICOVERY AWARDS
(BEST SELF PUBLISHED NOVEL CONTEST)

The “IndieReader Discovery Awards” are open to books that have been either self published or pubbed by an independent publisher. Books have to have a valid ISBN or ASIN number. There are no restrictions on pub dates. Both eBooks and paper books can be submitted. The top winners of the IndieReader Discovery Awards will be sent to Dystel, Goderich and Bourret Literary Management to be considered for representation. Why is that such a big deal? A literary agent may get 5,000 query letters a year. Only a fraction of these will lead to the agent requesting the manuscript.

www.indiereader.com/the-discovery-awards/

WRITER'S DIGEST PERSONAL ESSAY AWARDS

Think you can write a winning essay in 2,000 words or less? Enter the first ever Writer’s Digest Personal Essay Awards for your chance to win \$2,500 in cash, get published in Writer’s Digest magazine, and a paid trip to the ever-popular Writer’s Digest Conference! www.writersdigest.com/writers-digest-competitions/personal-essay-awards

THE KINDLE BOOK AWARDS

Who: Any Independent or Small Press Author.

Books published on Amazon must have Amazon Link to qualify. All 2020 Kindle Book Awards submissions will be pre-screened by KBR staff and our amazing review team. They will initially read the “Look Inside” sample (90% of your phase 1 screening score) and Amazon book description (10% of score). They're looking for books with a compelling book description, but more importantly, books that “grab readers from the beginning” and make them want to continue reading.

MINIMUM WORD COUNT: 25K words (to allow for novellas in all categories) www.thekindlebookreview.net/2020-kindle-book-awards/

THE AAMBC LITERARY AWARDS

The AAMBC Literary Awards is the entertainment award show honoring and celebrating literary creatives in front of a live audience. Powered by AAMBC Inc., the organization focuses on new and emerging voices in literature and fusing them with established creatives in film, television, and publishing.

www.theaambcawards.com





WRITERS DIGEST SELF PUBLISHED AWARD

Whether you're a professional writer, a part-time freelancer or a self-starting student, here's your chance to enter the premier self-published competition exclusively for self-published books. One Grand Prize winner will receive \$8,000 in cash and a profile in Writer's Digest. One First Prize winner in each category will receive: \$1,000 in cash. Promotion in the March 2021 issue of Writer's Digest. There are 8 categories including children's books, poetry and inspirational.

www.writersdigest.com/tag/self-published-book-awards

LAMBDA LITERARY AWARDS

For over 30 years, the Lambda Literary Awards have identified and honored the best lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender books. The Lammys bring together 600 writers, celebrities, culture-workers, and publishing executives to celebrate excellence in LGBTQ publishing. Self published books are eligible to submit their book to one of the 10+ categories offered. <https://www.lambdaliterary.org/>

BEST INDIE BOOK AWARD

The annual Best Indie Book Award™ (or BIBA™) is an international literary contest recognizing outstanding indie authors. Entries are limited to independently (indie) published books, including those from small presses, e-book publishers, and self-published authors. All submissions must be written in English. www.bestindiebookaward.com/submit/

AMERICAN BOOK FEST- BEST BOOK AWARDS

Annual American Fiction Awards (AFA) are a new specialty book awards focused on honoring excellence in fiction and are specifically designed to not only garner media coverage & book sales for the winners & finalists but to promote awarded books to the publishing & entertainment industries.

www.americanbookfest.com/

Share your good news if you win.

Best of luck!

Dawn Michelle Hardy

