

Frequently Asked Questions

Indiana Authors Awards

What's new about the Indiana Authors Awards?

Indiana Humanities is the new home of the Indiana Authors Awards. The main change to the Indiana Authors Awards is an increased number of awards given in new categories, with individual books being nominated and awarded every two years. Additionally, the efforts to connect Indiana readers with Indiana writers are expanding. In October of 2019, we'll announce the details of a programming initiative designed to celebrate and support the excellent community of Hoosier writers and their readers.

What awards will be given?

Beginning in 2020, awards will be given in up to 10 categories. Individual books will be awarded in the following categories every two years:

- Fiction
- Nonfiction
- Poetry
- Children's
- Young Adult
- Drama
- Genre and Graphic Novel
- Emerging

Two additional awards will be given to authors for their legacy and contributions to Indiana's literary community. Each award cycle, Indiana Humanities will accept nominations for a Literary Champion award for contributions to the community of readers and writers in Indiana and the Lifetime Achievement award for an extraordinary body of work by a Hoosier author.

Who is eligible?

Authors must be current full or part-time residents of Indiana who have resided in the state for at least five years.

What is the prize?

Winners of the Indiana Authors Awards receive a \$5,000 prize, with the exception of the Literary Champion awardee, who receives \$2,500.

Who is selecting the winners?

Winning books are selected by juries made up of three or more scholars, writers, subject matter experts, and librarians. Juries have the option of making no award in a particular category.

When do nominations open and what books are eligible?

Nominations for the 2020 awards open Oct. 21, 2019. Books published between Jan. 1, 2018 – Dec. 31, 2019 are eligible for the award in 2020. Currently, self-published books are not eligible. Authors may self-nominate or be nominated by another person.

When do nominations close?

Nominations for the 2020 awards close Jan. 6, 2020.

When will winners be announced?

Winners will be notified of their award during the summer of 2020. Winners will be publicly announced and celebrated during the fall of each award year.

Besides the prize money, do winning authors receive any other benefits?

Winners of the Indiana Authors Awards will be given the opportunity to designate a \$500 gift to an Indiana library of their choice. Additionally, winners will be invited to join the Novel Conversations Speakers Bureau, a statewide speakers bureau of winners of the Indiana Authors Award. Awardees will also be the focus of an extensive media campaign announcing the honor and encouraging Hoosiers to read these excellent examples of Indiana literature.

Will there be a gala held to announce the authors?

No. In order to dedicate more resources statewide, winners will be announced and celebrated at a short ceremony and press event in the fall of each award year.

How can I find out more about what's in store?

Attend [Write Now: A Celebration of Indiana Literature on Oct. 21, 2019](#) at the Indianapolis Artsgarden to learn all that's in store for the Indiana Authors Awards. Additionally, you can [sign up](#) for our special enews to receive periodic updates on deadlines and events.

Have more questions?

Email Megan Telligman at mtelligman@indianahumanities.org or call 317.616.9409.