



# 2020 INDIANA AUTHORS AWARDS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **What do the Indiana Authors Awards recognize?**

The 2020 Indiana Authors Awards celebrate the best books written by Indiana authors in eight categories and published in the previous two years (2018 and 2019).

## **How did you choose which books to consider for the awards?**

In order to be considered for an Indiana Authors Award, books had to be nominated either by authors, publishers, agents or friends of the author. Anyone could nominate a book for the Indiana Authors Awards.

## **Who was eligible to be considered for an award?**

Nominated authors must have significant connections to Indiana (described on the nomination form and considered by the judges) or have lived in Indiana for at least five years. For residency, authors must have lived in state for at least five years total, and if they are current residents, must have lived here since September 1, 2015. Nominators indicated residency information on the nomination form reviewed by the judges. If there were further questions about residency or the author's Indiana connection, staff reached out to the nominator for additional information.

## **Who judged the books? How were shortlists determined?**

Judges included former winners, writers, educators, scholars, local bookstore owners and librarians. Judges worked together to determine shortlists and winners. Shortlist lengths were not set by the Indiana Authors Awards but were determined by the committees of judges.

## **How many categories of awards are there?**

There are eight book categories: children's, young adult, poetry, drama, genre, nonfiction, fiction and emerging.

## **Will you present any non-book awards?**

Yes. Judges have awarded a Literary Champion for contributions to the literary community.

## **What do the winners receive?**

Book award winners receive a \$5,000 prize, a physical award featuring Indiana limestone and the opportunity to make a \$500 gift to an Indiana public library of their choice. The Literary Champion receives \$2,500.

### **How was the book's category for consideration determined?**

Nominators selected which category the book would be considered in. Judges and Indiana Authors Awards' staff had no hand in determining the category the book was considered in.

### **What books are best considered in the genre category?**

The genre category includes romance, mystery, science-fiction, suspense and more. Nominators chose which category they wanted the book to be considered in.

### **Who was nominated for the emerging category?**

Any book could be nominated for the emerging award (defined as a book written by an early-career Indiana author). Emerging books could be nominated in just that category or in conjunction with another category. For example, an author could be nominated in the poetry category, but indicate that they would also like to be considered for the emerging award.

### **How did judges select the emerging winner?**

Judges from each category worked together to select a book to represent the emerging finalist from their category. Then, a panel of judges selected the best book by an early-career writer. An early career writer was described in the nomination guidelines as having published only 1 or 2 books. Nominators chose whether the book should be considered for this recognition or not.

### **Who funds and executes the award program?**

The Eugene & Marilyn Glick Indiana Authors Awards are powered by Indiana Humanities and generously funded by Glick Philanthropies.

### **I published a book this year. Can I submit it for an award in the future?**

Books published in 2020 and 2021 will be eligible for the award in 2022. Stay tuned for more information on how to nominate. Nominations for the 2022 Awards will open in the fall of 2021 and be awarded in fall, 2022.