



THE AWARDS

The Bermuda Literary Awards were inaugurated by the Bermuda Government in 1999 to honour literary achievement by Bermuda's writers. The Bermuda Literary Awards are administered by the Department of Culture. The aims of the Bermuda Government in offering these awards are:

- To recognise significant contributions to the development of Bermudian culture
- To honour creative works and uphold the writer's role in society
- To preserve and promote the highest standards of Bermudian literature

The following prizes are awarded:

The Brian Burland Prize for Fiction: \$2,000

The Prize for Non-Fiction: \$2,000

The Prize for Children and Young Adult Fiction: \$2,000

The Cecile N. Musson Prize for Poetry: \$2,000

The Prize for Drama /Screenwriting: \$2,000

The Prize for Cultural Merit: \$2,000

The Founder's Award: \$2,000

The judges are not obligated to make an award in a category in any given year if the judges are of the opinion that the works submitted are not of sufficient calibre.

THE BRIAN BURLAND PRIZE FOR FICTION

This prize is offered for a published novel or collection of short stories.

THE PRIZE FOR NON-FICTION

This prize is offered for a published work of non-fiction.

Books consisting principally of photographs or illustrations will be ineligible unless the accompanying text is of substantial length.

THE PRIZE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULT FICTION

This prize is offered for a published work of fiction or collection of short stories written for a readership between the ages of birth to 20 years old.

Literary merit will be the major judging criterion. In the case of illustrated books, the additional criterion of liter-ary and artistic unity will be considered.

THE CECILE N. MUSSON PRIZE FOR POETRY

This prize is offered for a significant selection of new work by a poet published in book form. The work may be published in book containing the work of up to four poets but in the case of multi-authored volumes the judges will exercise their discretion regarding compliance with the definition “significant selection”.

THE PRIZE FOR DRAMA/SCREENWRITING

This prize is offered for screenplays; or for scripts written for theatre or radio.

Entries must fulfil the following criteria:

1. Theatre scripts produced in Bermuda by a theatre company for an audience of the general public. Workshop productions are not deemed to constitute professional performances.
2. Theatre scripts published in Bermuda that have not already been eligible under criteria (1) listed above.
3. Radio scripts broadcast within Bermuda.
4. Screenplays that have been made into feature-length films that have been screened for an audience of the general public.
5. Screenplays published that have not already been eligible under criteria (4) listed above.

Adaptations will be eligible if, in the view of the judges, they represent a significant and creative transformation of the original text. Where scripts have not been published, they must be submitted bound and typed with double spacing on one side.

THE PRIZE FOR CULTURAL MERIT

This prize is offered for books or scripts that are notable for contributing to the preservation of Bermuda’s culture, heritage, folklife and/or history.

THE FOUNDER’S AWARD

This prize is offered for books or scripts published prior to the establishment of the Bermuda Literary Awards in 1999.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Authors must be Bermudian or normally resident in Bermuda for at least ten years.
2. All works must be in English.
3. These awards are intended to be for significant and substantial works first made available to the public during the eligibility period. The following guidelines define this:
4. Eligible books will be those first published in English after 1 February 2018 and before 1 February 2023.

5. Unpublished manuscripts or short stories (other than in a published collection by a single author), or poems published in anthologies or literary journals, are ineligible for these awards.
6. No work can win more than one category.
7. Submitted works will not be returned.
8. In all matters relating to the judging of the awards, the decision of the judges is final.
9. Breach of the conditions of entry will render an entry invalid.

AUTHORSHIP

These awards are intended to be living author's awards, for works defined as above. The following guidelines define authorship:

1. Works of joint authorship are eligible for these awards. Joint authorship is defined here as meaning joint responsibility by no more than two authors for the entire text.
2. Works of multiple authorship, including anthologies, are not eligible for nomination and may not be entered under the name of one of the authors, or of the editor.
3. The nominated work must be the author's own work.
4. Oral histories are ineligible unless the author claims artistic responsibility for a substantial part of the text.
5. Works may not be entered in the name of a committee.

NOMINATION

1. Each entry must be accompanied by a completed and signed copy of the relevant nomination form and 2 copies of the nominated work. Submitted works will not be returned.
2. Works may be nominated by writers, publishers, production companies or literary agents. There is no limit to the number of titles that may be entered by a nominator, provided the works entered meet all other entry requirements.
3. Without prejudice to the general conditions and guidelines, judges reserve the right to consider works not submitted, if these are eligible.
4. Nomination forms and copies of the nominated works must be received by the Literary Awards Committee by 18 August 2023. *Nominations received after 18 August 2023 will be ineligible for consideration.*