2019-2020 NOMINATION GUIDELINES

ABOUT
The Indiana Authors Awards are a biennial program powered by Indiana Humanities and made possible by Glick Philanthropies. Every two years, the awards recognize and celebrate the best books published by Indiana writers in the previous two years. Nominations for the 2020 Indiana Authors Awards open Oct. 21, 2019, and close Jan. 6, 2020.

AWARD DESCRIPTIONS
Beginning in 2020, awards will be given to books in up to eight categories. Authors may self-nominate or be nominated by another person or organization (e.g., agent, publisher, friend). The nominator decides which category is the best fit for the piece being nominated. The following descriptions provide guidelines for each of the categories. If you have questions about which category is best for your book, email Megan Telligman at mtelligman@indianahumanities.org.

Books will be awarded in the following categories every two years:

- **Fiction:** This category includes literary fiction, novellas and short story collections written by a single author.
- **Nonfiction:** Biography, memoir, creative nonfiction and nonfiction written for a general, non-specialized audience will be considered in the nonfiction category.
- **Poetry:** Poetry book submissions should be written by a single author.
- **Children’s:** This category includes young children’s (ages 0-6), elementary and middle grade (ages 6-12) books.
- **Young Adult:** This category includes poetry, fiction, graphic novels and nonfiction for readers ages 12-19.
- **Drama:** Plays and screenplays that have been published, produced or performed will be considered.
- **Genre:** Science fiction, mystery, fantasy, western, horror, crime, and romance should all be nominated in the genre category.
- **Emerging:** This award recognizes the best book by an early-career Indiana writer in any of the above categories. As a general rule, the book nominated should be the first or second book by the author.

All books should be nominated in a single category with the exception of the Emerging Award. For example, a book could be nominated for the Poetry AND Emerging Award or the Fiction AND Emerging Award. The nomination form allows nominators the option of selecting both categories.

LITERARY CHAMPION AND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
Two additional awards will be given to authors for their legacy and contributions to Indiana’s literary community.

**Literary Champion:** This award recognizes extraordinary contributions to the community of readers and writers in Indiana by an individual or organization. Literary champions may be writers, but may also include librarians, teachers, arts organizations, writing group organizers and more. This award may be given to an individual or organization. The literary champion is nominated with an explanation of why the individual or organization is a good candidate for this award, along with no fewer than three letters of recommendation.
**Lifetime Achievement**: This award recognizes an extraordinary body of work by a Hoosier author. Authors do not need to be current Indiana residents to be considered, but they must have significant connections to the Hoosier State, or the subject matter of their works must display significant Indiana influence. This award is not given posthumously. Past winners include James Alexander Thom, Mari Evans and Dan Wakefield.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Nominated authors should be current full or part-time residents of Indiana who have resided in the state for at least five (consecutive or non-consecutive) years. We will also consider books from authors with deep connections to the Hoosier State who might not currently live in the state. If you’re not a current resident, you’ll be asked upon applying to provide a description of why you consider yourself an Indiana author. Lifetime Achievement award nominees need not live in-state. For the Literary Champion award, special consideration is given to nominees currently living and working in-state.

While awards are only given to authors with current residency or significant Indiana ties, the Indiana Authors Awards have great interest in sharing new books about Indiana. If you have a new book about Indiana that you would like to share for promotional purposes, please email info@indianaauthorsawards.org.

Self-published books are not eligible for the 2020 awards cycle. The Indiana Authors Awards aim to support and celebrate all Indiana writers, however. While self-published books are not considered at this time, the Awards are committed to spreading the word about works written by Hoosier authors. If you have a self-published book or upcoming event you would like to share for promotion, please email info@indianaauthorsawards.org.

**SUBMISSION**
Nomination forms can be found at [www.indianaauthorsawards.org](http://www.indianaauthorsawards.org). Be sure to select the correct nomination form for the intended category. When you complete the form, you will be asked to pay a $30 submission fee and send five copies of the nominated book to:

Indiana Humanities  
c/o Megan Telligman  
1500 N. Delaware St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Books submitted will not be returned to the sender. The submission fee is not required for the Lifetime Achievement or Literary Champion awards. If the submission fee and book costs present a barrier to entry for the author or submitter, please email mtelligman@indianahumanities.org to request a waiver. Requesting a waiver has no bearing on eligibility and will not be shared with any selection committee members.

**SELECTION PROCESS AND TIMELINE**
Three-person juries made up of subject-expert scholars, librarians and writers review and select the winners. In any award cycle, juries have the option to make no award. Jury decisions are final. Authors will be notified on or before August 1, 2020. Winners will be announced to the public in September 2020.

**PRIZE INFORMATION**
Winners of the Indiana Authors Awards receive a $5,000 prize, with the exception of the Literary Champion awardee, who receives $2,500. Indiana Authors Award winners will may also designate a $500 gift to an Indiana library of their choice.

**QUESTIONS?**
Contact Megan Telligman, program manager, at mtelligman@indianahumanities.org | 317.616.9409