

Frequently Asked Questions

I published a chapbook of a dozen poems six years ago. Does that mean I can't claim my poetry collection published this year as a first publication in the genre?

We conceive a chapbook of poetry as a volume that is less than 50 pages in length, privately printed with fewer than 100 copies produced. A previous chapbook of this description does not disqualify a poet who has subsequently published a first collection of poems by a literary press.

Does the New Writers Award accept a self-published work?

We do accept self-published work. In that case the submitter should serve both as publisher and author of the work; please refer to the submission guidelines above.

What if the author of the book isn't on hand to sign the writer's statement of agreement? Can that statement be faxed or e-mailed separately?

Yes. We enclose a form with standard statement agreeing to a series of campus visits if an author should win the award. An author may choose instead to send that statement as an e-mail, fax, or a mailed note indicating the understanding that there will be some travel involved if he or she wins the award.

Can the four copies of a submitted volume be sent under a separate cover from the publisher's submission materials?

Yes. Send both books and submission materials to the same GLCA mailing address provided in the submission guidelines. Please indicate in the submission letter if materials are being sent separately.

What happens if my entry arrives after the deadline date?

June 30 is the date by which all entry materials and physical volumes must be postmarked. In some cases, these mailings may arrive at the GLCA several days after the postmarked date. We will accept the submission only if the postmark date is no later than June 30. Books that are postmarked for shipment after the June 30 deadline will not be accepted or returned.

Our publishing company has more than one publicity agent, and I submitted a volume to one of the awards not realizing that my colleague had already submitted another work we've published this year in the same genre. What should we do?

GLCA will contact a publishing company that has submitted more than one entry to a single category. We will ask the publisher to choose which of the volumes it wishes to withdraw and which it chooses to go forward for active consideration in the judging process.

Does the New Writers Award accept submissions in manuscript?

Typewritten, unbound entries regardless of the genre will not be accepted. A work that is in galley proof stage should be deferred until the next year's contest, when it can be submitted as a bound volume.