

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 sent separately?

Yes. An author may email or send the statement agreeing to the terms of the award separately (send to [Colleen Monahan Smith](#)).

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 books are being sent separately. While bound volumes must be shipped, it is acceptable for a publisher to send submission material via email.

What happens if my entry arrives after the deadline date?

June 25 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 25. Books that are postmarked for shipment after the June 25 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. The GLCA can not return volumes that are withdrawn or do not qualify.

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.

Does the New Writers Award accept digital books?

We do not accept published volumes in electronic form.

Does the New Writers Award accept children's books?

No, children's book are not accepted.

I submitted my book last year, but it did not win. It still meets the other eligibility requirements. Can I re-submit?

No, we do not consider a submitted volume for more than a single season in our program. Books that do not qualify cannot be returned.