

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.

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](#)). An electronic signature by the author (not the publisher) is also acceptable.

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

Yes. While bound volumes must be shipped, nomination material may be sent 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 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 The GLCA can not return volumes that are withdrawn or do not qualify.

Will you accept nominations from an imprint?

Yes, each imprint can consider itself a separate publisher, which can submit one work of its choosing to a given category – one entry to the fiction, one to the poetry, and one to the non-fiction award. Our assumption is that each press has its own editorial staff and, as such, makes independent judgments about works it accepts for publication.

Does the New Writers Award accept submissions in manuscript or digital form?

No. Typewritten, unbound or electronic 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. We will accept Advanced Reader Copies (four copies per the guidelines).

Does the New Writers Award accept children's books?

No, children's books are not accepted.

I am under 18. Can I still enter?

No, all authors must be at least 18 years of age.

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.