

Bridport Prize Rules of Entry

Please ensure you read the rules carefully before entering the competition. Entry implies acceptance of all the rules and failure to comply may result in disqualification

General

All entries are judged anonymously. Please do not include your name, address, phone number, email, website, twitter handle etc on the document.

Please note:

Our entry instructions are for ease of administration and we prefer you to follow them. HOWEVER if you forget anything or add details (titles, word or line counts) in the wrong place, your entry will NOT be disqualified. We only disqualify entries if they are named or over the word or line limit.

This document covers the following areas:

- Length
 - Eligibility
 - Fees
 - Receipt of entry
 - Judging
 - Copyright
 - Prizes
 - Results
 - Additional information for Novel Award entrants
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- Entries submitted can be on any subject, and written in any style or form. We do not recommend poems and stories written for children.
 - Entrants may enter any number of poems, short stories, flash fiction stories or novels in each category.
 - Entrants may withdraw entries from the competition by notification in writing; entry fees will not be refunded.
 - The deadline date for entries is 12 midnight (UK time) on 31st May 2018
 - Postal entries postmarked 31st May but received later will be accepted

Length

- Poems: 42 lines max. No minimum. Title not included in the line count. Lines between text / stanzas are not counted.
- Short stories: 5000 words max. No minimum, Title not included in the word count.
- Flash fiction: 250 words max. No minimum. Title not included in the

word count.

- Novel: 8,000 words max. 5,000 words minimum from opening chapters PLUS 300 word synopsis

Eligibility

- The Prize is open to writers of any nationality writing in English, 16 years old and over at the time of the closing date.
- Entries must be entirely the work of the entrant and by submitting you are confirming that the work is your own. Any evidence to the contrary will result in immediate disqualification.
- Entries must never have been published, self-published, published on any website, blog or online forum, broadcast nor winning or placed (as in 2nd, 3rd, runner up etc) in any other competition. **
- If your entry has been long-listed or shortlisted in other competitions, and provided it has not won a prize or been published, then it is eligible for the Bridport Prize.
- Simultaneous submissions are allowed but will become ineligible should they win a prize or be published prior to the prize-giving date; entry fees will not be refunded.
- You must inform the Bridport Prize immediately should your entry be published or win a prize elsewhere.
- Entries submitted posthumously will not be eligible.

*** The Novel Award has a slight variant on this rule. Entrants to this category must not have previously published a novel, (although self-published and ebooks are accepted). Novel entrants who have had other types of books traditionally published e.g. poetry, memoir, nonfiction, are eligible to submit.*

Fees

£8 for each submitted flash fiction
£9 for each submitted poem
£10 for each submitted short story
£20 for each submitted novel

Receipt of entry

- Postal entries - enclose a stamped addressed postcard marked 'ACKNOWLEDGEMENT' if you require acknowledgement of receipt of your entry.
- Online entries are confirmed by the email receipt of your payment to WorldPay or PayPal plus an email from the Bridport Prize.
- It is not possible to confirm receipt of entries by phone or email.
- Overseas entrants: please send an international reply coupon from your Post Office rather than stamps.

Judging

- The judges' decision is final and no individual correspondence can be entered into.
- Judges are unable to comment on individual entries.
- Judging is fair and unbiased. Experienced readers assist the named judges in selecting the shortlists.
- The Bridport Prize reserves the right to change the panel of judges without notice

Copyright

Worldwide copyright of each entry remains with the author, but the Bridport Prize will have the unrestricted right to publish the winning poems and stories, (including Highly Commendeds), in the annual anthology and any relevant promotional material.

Prizes

The Bridport Prize will award the following prizes:

Poetry: 1st prize £5,000, 2nd prize £1,000, 3rd prize £500, Highly Commended 10 x £100

Short story: 1st prize £5,000, 2nd prize £1,000, 3rd prize £500, Highly Commended 10 x £100

Flash fiction: 1st prize £1,000, 2nd prize £500, 3rd prize £250, Highly Commended 3 x £100

Novel award: 1st prize - £1,000 plus up to a year's mentoring from The Literary Consultancy through their Chapter & Verse mentoring scheme (worth £2,340), a short, written report on the winning entry from the named judge.

If, after the mentoring process, the finished novel is suitable, A.M. Heath Literary Agents will have first option to represent the winner and to offer it to a publisher they recommend.

Runner-up - £500 plus full manuscript appraisal from The Literary Consultancy

The first three chapters of the winning and runner-up novel will be published on the Bridport Prize website after 22 October 2018.

3 shortlisted prizes of £100 plus a 50-page manuscript appraisal from The Literary Consultancy (Redeemable against a full read if desired)

All five winners will be invited to a TLC Industry Day.

The Bridport Prize reserves the right to amend these rules where it is deemed necessary to do so. Any changes to the rules will be posted on the Bridport Prize website.

Results

- Winners and highly commended writers in the poetry, short story and flash fiction categories will be notified by email in September
- The winner and runner-up in the Novel category will be notified in early October (please see Novel Timetable in Entry Instructions for details)
- The 2018 prize-giving ceremony will be held on Saturday 20 October at Bridport Arts Centre, Dorset, UK
- The 2018 results will be posted on the website on 22 October 2018
- To receive the judges' reports (on winning entries only) and full results in October 2018 - enclose an A5 stamped addressed envelope marked 'RESULTS'.
- Overseas entrants: please send an international reply coupon from your Post Office rather than stamps or check the website for list of winners after 22 October

Additional information for Novel Award entrants

Please note: the Peggy Chapman-Andrews Award for a First Novel is currently open to writers in Britain, aged 16 years and over, (Including Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the IOM) and the Republic of Ireland with a part-written or completed novel in any adult fiction genre including fiction for young adults (YA) providing there is a genuine crossover for adult readership. Non-fiction and fiction for children is not eligible.

Entrants must not have previously published a novel, (although self-published and ebooks are accepted). Entrants who have had other types of books published e.g. poetry, memoir, nonfiction, are eligible. "Published" means where a publisher (big or small) has selected a work on editorial grounds for their list (and that list publishes different writers as opposed to the list simply being comprised of one author's works) and where the author in question has not paid that publisher to do so.

The submitted work must not have won or been placed (i.e. 1st, 2nd or 3rd) in another competition. Work that has been commended is eligible provided a cash prize was not awarded

Entrants must not currently be represented by a literary agent.

The first page/s of your entry must be the 300 word synopsis comprising:

- 1st paragraph - brief summary of 30 to 75 words.

- Followed by the detailed synopsis.
- Please note the word limit for both the brief summary and synopsis is 300 words.
- Long-listed entrants will be required to submit a minimum of 15,000 words for the next stage of the judging process. Entrants unable to comply will be disqualified.
- Shortlisted entrants will be required to submit 30,000 words for the final stage of the judging process. Entrants unable to comply will be disqualified.

Our partner The Literary Consultancy (TLC) has information on 'How to Write a Synopsis'. Please see the Novel category page for details