



The IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award is now the **IBPA Book Award**.

# 37th Annual IBPA Book Award™



**IBPA**  
BOOK AWARD

IBPA is proud to continue our award's 36+ year legacy while expanding the program and strengthening the IBPA brand.

## CALL FOR ENTRIES

IBPA's Annual Book Award Program  
Recognizing Publishers for Excellence  
in Book Editorial and Design

You are invited to enter  
the **37th Annual**

# IBPA Book Award™



## WELCOME TO THE IBPA BOOK AWARD PROGRAM

The IBPA Book Award (formerly the IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award) are regarded as one of the highest national honors for independent publishers since 1985. The awards are administered by the Independent Book Publishers Association (IBPA) with help from over 170 book publishing professionals including librarians, bookstore owners, reviewers, designers, publicity managers, and editors.

## WHY ENTER

The IBPA Book Award program is the oldest, most established, and recognized national honor in independent publishing. The awards are unique in that the verbatim judging forms are returned to all participating publishers, providing entrants with direct feedback on each submission.

Each year, a gala award ceremony is held in conjunction with the IBPA Publishing University conference where one Gold and two Silver award winners are announced in each category. During the ceremony, all Gold winners receive an engraved trophy marking their achievement. Following the ceremony, winners are announced to major trade journals, select libraries, all IBPA social media channels (including Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram, the IBPA news feed), and more.

In addition, all winners (Gold and Silver) receive:

- Recognition prior to the awards ceremony on the IBPA website.
- Archived listing after the awards ceremony on the IBPA website.
- Two tickets to the awards ceremony recognizing all of the award winners.
- A press release template to use when announcing the winning book(s).
- A personalized award certificate.
- Special award stickers to affix to the winning books.

Finally, all entrants into the award program receive 15% off IBPA Publishing University conference tickets.

## PERIODS OF ENTRY

**For books published in 2024, there are two periods of entry:**

**JULY 1, 2024 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

**OCTOBER 1, 2024 TO DECEMBER 16, 2024**

Usually, books published between January 2024 and September 2024 are entered in the first entry period and books published between October 2024 and December 2024 are entered in the second entry period. As long as the books have a copyright date of 2024, however, they can be entered any time prior to the final deadline. All entries must be postmarked no later than December 16, 2024. This final deadline cannot be extended.

Books with a copyright date other than 2024 will not be considered without proof that the book first became available for sale in 2024.

## ELIGIBILITY

Publishers of print and audiobooks with a copyright date of 2024 may enter the current competition. Books with a copyright date of 2023 will not be considered. Books with a copyright date of 2025 will be held over for next year's program. Qualifying publishers include:

- independent publishers
- hybrid publishers
- author publishers
- university presses
- association presses

## COMMUNITY CATEGORIES

IBPA is pleased to recognize historically marginalized communities in the following categories:

- AAPI Communities
- Black/African American Communities
- Disabled Communities
- First Nations/Indigenous Communities
- Latina/o/e Communities
- LGBTQIA2+ Communities
- Neurodivergent Communities

Please note that submissions to these categories will first be judged on the book's contributions to the respective community and must include a significant contributor (editor, primary illustrator, photographer for highly illustrated books, publisher, or author) to the project from that community. Submissions will then be judged on the quality of the publication as outlined for the rest of the awards categories.

More details can be found at [ibpabookaward.org/faqs](http://ibpabookaward.org/faqs)

# IBPA Book Award Categories

## Special Note:

Children's Picture Books are only eligible in categories 1, 5, 10, 18, 25, 26, 29, 41, 42, 49, 51, 57, and 60.

Large format books (larger than 9" x 12") are only eligible in categories 1, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 18, 25, 26, 28, 29, 33, 39, 48, and 59.

## CATEGORY AND COMMUNITY BOOK AWARDS

1. AAPI Communities
2. Animal & Pet
3. Art & Photography
4. Biography & Autobiography
5. Black/African American Communities
6. Body, Mind, & Spirit
7. Business & Career
8. Coffee Table Book
9. Cookbook
10. Disabled Communities
11. Education
12. Fiction: General
13. Fiction: Historical
14. Fiction: Horror
15. Fiction: Mystery & Thriller
16. Fiction: Romance
17. Fiction: Science Fiction & Fantasy
18. First Nations/Indigenous Communities
19. Gift Book
20. Graphic Novel
21. Health & Fitness
22. History
23. Humor
24. Inspirational
25. Latina/o/e Communities
26. LGBTQIA2+ Communities
27. Memoir
28. Nature & Environment
29. Neurodivergent Communities
30. Parenting & Family
31. Poetry
32. Political & Current Events
33. Professional & Technical
34. Psychology
35. Reference
36. Regional
37. Religion
38. Self-Help
39. Sports & Recreation
40. Travel

## CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARDS

41. Children's Picture Book (0–3 years)
42. Children's Picture Book (4–7 years)
43. Middle Grade: Fiction (8–12 years)
44. Young Adult: Fiction (13–18 years)
45. Middle Grade/Young Adult: Nonfiction (8–18 years)

## DESIGN AWARDS

46. Cover Design: Fiction (9" x 12" or smaller)
47. Cover Design: Nonfiction (9" x 12" or smaller)
48. Cover Design: Large Format: (larger than 9" x 12")
49. Cover Design: Children's/Young Adult
50. Interior Design
51. Interior Design: Children's/Young Adult

## AUDIOBOOK AWARDS

52. Audiobook: Fiction\*
53. Audiobook: Nonfiction\*
54. Audiobook: Children's/Young Adult\*

## BEST NEW VOICE AWARDS

55. Best New Voice: Fiction (first book by a new author)
56. Best New Voice: Nonfiction (first book by a new author)
57. Best New Voice: Children's/Young Adult (first book by a new author)

## FEATURED AWARDS

The Bill Fisher Awards for Best First Book (initial titles from a new publisher)

58. The Bill Fisher Award for Best First Book: Fiction
59. The Bill Fisher Award for Best First Book: Nonfiction
60. The Bill Fisher Award for Best First Book: Children's/Young Adult

\*For audiobooks, you must send three (3) Audible or Spotify gift or promotion codes to Terry Nathan. If your audiobook is not available on Audible or Spotify, please contact Terry Nathan for additional submission options before applying.



**IBPA**  
BOOK AWARD

For more information,  
visit [ibpabookaward.org](http://ibpabookaward.org)

[ibpa-online.org](http://ibpa-online.org) • [info@ibpa-online.org](mailto:info@ibpa-online.org)

Independent Book Publishers Association  
1020 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Suite 204  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266  
310.546.1818

## ENTRY FEES

**IBPA member:** \$99 per title, per category

**Non-IBPA member:** \$234 for first title, which includes a one-year membership in IBPA; \$99 per title, per category for second and subsequent entries.

Make check payable to **IBPA** or bill my

VISA    Mastercard    AMEX    DISCOVER

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
CREDIT CARD NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
EXPIRATION DATE                      SECURITY CODE

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME ON THE CARD (PLEASE PRINT)

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

PLEASE CUT HERE

## ENTRY LABEL

THIS FORM MUST BE INCLUDED INSIDE THE FRONT COVER OF EACH BOOK YOU SUBMIT, therefore cut it from here and duplicate it as often as necessary. Insert the label inside the front cover of each book submitted (if you enter one book in one category, you must insert this form into each of the four books sent).

FOR AUDIOBOOKS: please send please send 3 Audible or Spotify gift or promotion codes to Terry Nathan at [terry@ibpa-online.org](mailto:terry@ibpa-online.org). If your book is not available on Audible or Spotify, please contact Terry Nathan for additional options.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CATEGORY (NO. AND NAME)

\_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE

\_\_\_\_\_  
CONTACT PERSON

\_\_\_\_\_  
PUBLISHING COMPANY

\_\_\_\_\_  
CONTACT PERSON'S ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
CONTACT PERSON'S CITY, STATE, ZIP

\_\_\_\_\_  
CONTACT PERSON'S TELEPHONE

\_\_\_\_\_  
CONTACT PERSON'S EMAIL

\_\_\_\_\_  
WEBSITE ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
PLEASE INDICATE THE BOOK'S TARGET AUDIENCE:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## GUIDELINES

### WHAT TO SEND (PRINT BOOKS)

Submit four (4) copies of each title for the initial category entered into print book categories. If you are entering the same title in multiple categories, you need to submit three (3) additional books for each additional category entered. **Example:** If you enter the same title in Categories 8 and 56, a total of seven (7) books should be sent with the entry.

Insert the entry label, **at left**, inside the front cover of each print book. Double-check to be sure you have filled in the label completely and have entered the title in the most appropriate category. Children's Picture Books are only eligible in categories 1, 5, 10, 18, 25, 26, 29, 41, 42, 49, 51, 57, and 60. Large format books (larger than 9" x 12") are only eligible in categories 1, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 18, 25, 26, 28, 29, 33, 39, 48, and 59.

If paying by credit card, please place your credit card details in an envelope on top of the entries. Do not include inside each book.

**Please note:** Books entered into the program will not be returned to you.

### HOW TO SEND (PRINT BOOKS)

Ship books and payment for entry fees in the same package via a shipping service, such as UPS or the USPS, to ensure on-time delivery to the IBPA offices. Place the payment for entry fees in an envelope on top of the entries in the package. Please do not include the payment in an envelope on the outside of the package. Please use the package mailing label below to identify your submission.

### WHAT & HOW TO SEND (AUDIOBOOKS)

For the **audiobook categories**, please send 3 Audible or Spotify gift or promotion codes to Terry Nathan at [terry@ibpa-online.org](mailto:terry@ibpa-online.org). If your book is not available on Audible or Spotify, please contact Terry Nathan for additional options.

Send a check made payable to "IBPA" for the total amount of entry fees or fill out the credit card section on the entry label at left and send it to the IBPA Office.

### PACKAGE MAILING LABEL

PLEASE CUT HERE

## 37th Annual IBPA BOOK AWARD™

Independent Book Publishers Association  
1020 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Suite 204  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

PLEASE CUT HERE

