**A blue and white logo

Description automatically generatedNew Writers Award  
*Frequently Asked Questions***

**Eligibility Questions**  
  
**I published a chapbook of a dozen poems six years ago. Can I still claim my poetry collection published this year as my first book in the genre?**Yes. A chapbook is typically defined as a volume of fewer than 50 pages, privately printed with fewer than 100 copies. A prior chapbook does not disqualify you from claiming a subsequent full-length collection as your first book, provided it was published by a literary press.

**I published a collection of short stories and just wrote my first full length novel. Is my novel eligible?**

No. We only have one fiction category that includes both novels and shorter fiction.

**May I submit a single poem to the contest?**No. The poetry category only accepts fully bound volumes of poetry.

**Does the New Writers Award accept self-published works?**Yes, self-published works are eligible. In such cases, the author serves as both the publisher and the author.

**Does the New Writers Award accept children’s books?**  
No, children’s books are not eligible for this award.

**I am under 18. Can I still enter?**  
No. All authors must be at least 18 years old to be eligible.

**Submission Process**  
**Is there a fee to enter?**  
No, there is no fee to enter. However, four bound copies of the nominated book must be submitted, along with the required electronic forms.

**Can the four copies of a submitted volume be sent separately from the nomination materials?**  
Yes. All nomination materials should be submitted via the [Nomination Form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdk2mTc_CIGmS2Fokfp5ya9W2h5pMV6qHYkfA7A_Z-lj54H6A/viewform?usp=dialog), while the physical volumes will be shipped separately.

**What happens if my entry arrives after the deadline?**All entry materials and physical volumes must be postmarked by May 25. Submissions postmarked after this date will not be accepted or returned.

**My publishing company has multiple publicity agents, and we accidentally submitted two works in the same category. What should we do?**GLCA will contact the publisher to resolve the issue. The publisher must choose which volume to withdraw and which to move forward for consideration. If the appropriate contact cannot be reached, the Director of the Award will accept the volume first nominated. Withdrawn or ineligible volumes will not be returned.

**Will you accept nominations from an imprint?**Yes. Each imprint is treated as a separate publisher and may submit one work per category (fiction, poetry, or creative non-fiction). 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. Only bound volumes are accepted. Works in galley proof stage should be deferred until the following year’s contest, when they can be submitted as bound volumes. Advanced Reader Copies (ARCs) are accepted, if they meet all other submission requirements.

**Re-submission**  
**I submitted my book last year, but it did not win. It still meets the eligibility requirements. Can I re-submit?**  
No. The New Writers Award considers each book for only one season.

**Award and Travel Requirements**  
  
**What happens if I win? What are the responsibilities of an award recipient?**Award recipients are invited to visit [GLCA member campuses](https://www.glca.org/our-colleges/), which typically include a public reading and may involve class visits, workshops, or informal interactions with students and faculty. Visits generally last one to two days.

**I’m uncomfortable traveling. Is it required if I win?**  
Yes, travel to GLCA member campuses is a key component of the award. If you are not comfortable traveling, we recommend not submitting for this award.

**My publisher submitted my book, but I’m not interested in traveling. Can I withdraw?**  
Yes. Please contact the award director at smith@glca.org to withdraw your nomination.

**Timeline and Notifications**  
  
**When are the winners announced?**  
Winners are announced in January of the year the award is given. If you nominated a title, you will receive an email with the announcement. Details will also be posted on the [GLCA website](https://www.glca.org/faculty/new-writers-award/).

**Miscellaneous**

**What if the author of the book isn’t available to sign the writer’s agreement?**The author should submit the [agreement form online](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdHkMPgHYJnnQtH2q2yHzP6RkQFm1VeKBjjN6IPGJn9xfomFw/viewform?usp=sf_link) with an electronic signature. This form will likely be submitted separately from the nomination form.