

ABOUT THE AWARDS

The International Literacy Association (ILA) Children's & Young Adult Book Awards Committee is responsible for recognizing newly published authors of both fiction and nonfiction who show exceptional promise in the field. The winning title must be the author's first or second book published in 2025. Awards are given in each of three (3) categories: Primary, Intermediate, and Young Adult.)

ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Authors are honored on the basis of the fiction or nonfiction title submitted. To be eligible, the title must be the first or second book published by the author or author team. First- or second-time author-illustrators are also eligible but will be evaluated solely on writing quality.

Titles must be submitted for one of three categories: Primary (ages preschool–8), Intermediate (ages 9–13), or Young Adult (ages 14–17).

To be considered, a title must have been published in English during the 2025 calendar year. First-time English translations published in the 2025 calendar year are also eligible. At this time, self-published books are not eligible for consideration.

Books may be entered for consideration by the publisher or by the author(s). (If the author is submitting their book, the book must not have been self-published.) One copy, either print or digital, of each title submitted must reach the ILA Children's and Young Adult Book Awards Committee chair and all of the designated subcommittee members, by no later than **January 5, 2026**. If all members of the specified committee and the chair have not received their copy by this date, the publication will no longer be put forward for consideration as part of the review process. The cost of providing these titles, as well as any associated shipping costs, are the responsibility of the publisher or the author(s).

SUBMISSION PROCESS

All nominations must be submitted through [an online application](#). Up to six (6) titles can be submitted per form. No more than three (3) forms may be submitted in total.

Please be sure to review all the requirements on the form, including:

- Requested information for submitter
- Title of book(s)
- Category (Fiction or Nonfiction) and age level group (Primary, Intermediate, or Young Adult) for each book submitted (Please be sure to double check these choices. Books submitted in the wrong category may be disqualified.)
- Name of author(s) and illustrator(s) if applicable

- Cover image of each book (front only; 300 dpi or higher)

Each author's eligibility will be confirmed by ILA staff upon submission. Once confirmed, a shipping list with committee members' addresses will be sent to the submitter. The submitter must then send one copy of each title to every member on the list. All costs will be assumed by the submitting publisher or author(s). **ALL TITLES, EITHER PRINT OR DIGITAL, MUST BE RECEIVED BY INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS BY NO LATER THAN JANUARY 5, 2026, TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION.**

Please note the expectation that the submitter will distribute either *print or digital* copies of each book and that audio versions will not be accepted without prior approval. Exceptions to this policy will be made when an alternative format is requested by a committee member for accessibility and/or when a committee member's shipping address is in a different country from that of the submitter; in those cases, the submitter may request permission to send an audio copy instead.

SUBMISSION TIMELINE

- Open Date: **August 22, 2025**
- Submission Deadline: **November 1, 2025**
- Applicants are notified of the results via email by **early June 2026**

Please direct any questions to ILAAwards@reading.org.