



2025 Writers' Award Entry Form

Please return your entry and form as separate attachments to enter@creativefuture.org.uk, or by post to:

Creative Future Writers' Award
Community Base, 113 Queens Road
Brighton BN1 3XG

Deadline: Sunday 18 May, 11:59pm

Postal entries must be received by Monday 19 May

Late entries cannot be considered. All entrants will be contacted by 30 September.

| | |
|---|--|
| Name | |
| Email Address | |
| Telephone Number | |
| Address | |
| Town | |
| Postcode | |
| Year of Birth | |
| I identify as | <input type="checkbox"/> Agender <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Non-binary <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say |
| Ethnic Origin | <input type="checkbox"/> Arab <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Asian British <input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian background [please describe]: <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African/Caribbean/Black British <input type="checkbox"/> Other Black background [please describe]: <input type="checkbox"/> Gypsy or Irish Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> White British <input type="checkbox"/> White Irish <input type="checkbox"/> Other white background [please describe]: <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed/Multiple Ethnicity [please describe]: <input type="checkbox"/> Other ethnic background [please describe]: |
| The Award is open to writers who are under-represented. Please tick all that apply to you. | <input type="checkbox"/> Black, Asian, mixed heritage or other global majority background <input type="checkbox"/> Gypsy or Irish Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Learning disability <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQIA+ <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health challenges <input type="checkbox"/> Neurodivergent <input type="checkbox"/> Physical disability/long-term limiting illness/sensory impairment <input type="checkbox"/> Substance misuse issue <input type="checkbox"/> Survivor <input type="checkbox"/> Working class background |
| Title of Entry: | |
| Category (You can only make ONE entry) | <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry |

| | |
|--|---|
| Would you like to subscribe the Creative Future newsletter? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Have you ever submitted work to a literary competition besides ours before? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Does submitting work to the Writers' Award help you value yourself as a writer? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

We cannot accept submissions without a completed entry form.

Questions? Get in touch on enter@creativefuture.org.uk or 01273 234780 (Tuesdays only).

We are a small part-time team and may not respond right away.

There is **no entry fee**. Help keep the Award free at www.creativefuture.org.uk/donate/ or enclose a cheque payable to Creative Future.

Eligibility

The Writers' Award is only open to those who are:

- **Over 18 years old**
- **Currently living in the UK** (regardless of immigration status), due to the nature of the prizes and opportunities on offer.
- **From underrepresented backgrounds** (these categories are defined on the entry form).

Please choose any and all categories which apply to you when entering. We ask that you self-identify under the above categories and do not ask that you prove your eligibility.

We champion people who are underrepresented in a range of ways, on the assumption that people will use their judgement about the barriers and issues they have faced. We have never turned anyone away as 'not underrepresented enough.'

...and have not yet **published a book**, or are under contract for publication this year, in creative non-fiction, fiction/YA or poetry.

- This does not include stories/poems/short pieces published in magazines, journals, anthologies or online
- ...but your entry to the competition must not have been published previously in a magazine, anthology, or online where there is an external selection process (e.g. except on your own blog, website, or social media).
- This does not include self-published books
- It does include poetry pamphlets
- It includes if you intend to enter in a different genre than you've been published in (poetry, fiction or creative non-fiction)
- It does not include academic, technical, cookbooks or children's books or similar.

If you are unsure about your eligibility, please enter and we will contact you if we have any questions if your work is shortlisted. We encourage anyone who is interested to enter the competition.

Entries

This year's theme is '**Wild.**' It is a creative prompt, not a requirement. Send us your best work!

Please do not put your name on your work. Judging is anonymous.

You can submit ONE piece of writing, up to the word limits (not including the title, section/stanza breaks, or epigraphs):

- Poetry: 50 lines
- Fiction: 2,000 words
- Creative Non-Fiction: 2,000 words

There is no minimum word count.

The best way to get a sense of what we're looking for is by [purchasing a previous anthology here](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

I'm not sure if my work fits the theme.

The theme is a creative prompt, not a requirement. We are looking for quality writing first and foremost.

Can I enter under a pen name?

You may use a pen name, including for the Award announcement, publication and associated publicity.

Can I enter an excerpt of a longer work (novel, memoir or similar)?

You are welcome to submit an excerpt of a longer work if it works as a stand-alone piece.

I have a question about the word count...

The word count for prose and line limit for poetry does not include:

- Titles
- Epigraphs
- Brief footnotes
- Line/stanza/section breaks

There is no minimum word or line count.

What do you mean by creative non-fiction?

We are looking for memoir, lyric essays, narrative/immersive journalism, nature, food, travel and place writing. Please [read our blog post here](#).

Can I include words in a non-English language?

Of course. It's fine to include footnotes or similar to translate anything that isn't clear in context if necessary. These are not considered part of the word count.

Are there any restrictions on adult content or genres?

There are no restrictions on explicit content. We are open to any genre except children's writing, although the judges do not tend to select straight genre work, e.g. sci-fi, fantasy, horror or similar.

Can I include photos, illustrations or complex typography?

The anthology is printed in standard black-and-white text and no photos or illustrations can be included. We would make every effort otherwise, e.g. for a shape poem or accents/diacritics for non-English words.

Why are poets who've published pamphlets ineligible?

We realise this is disappointing, but the Award is aimed at new and unpublished writers. We sometimes have opportunities for early-career poets so do [subscribe to our newsletter](#).

I have a literary agent, am I eligible?

If you do not yet have a book under contract, you are eligible to enter.

Can I get feedback on my entry?

We unfortunately do not have the capacity to give any feedback on submissions.

I need to make changes to my entry.

Submissions cannot be altered after entry. You can withdraw your entry and make a new one if needed.

My entry was accepted for publication/won a prize elsewhere.

Please notify us immediately to withdraw your submission.

Can I use AI (such as ChatGPT)?

Your work must not have been created using AI software, unless this is done in a transformative or artistic way and is clearly indicated.

Can I send a hand-written entry by post?

We prefer typed entries, but accept handwritten entries—keep copies as entries will not be returned.

Do you have any writing workshops on offer?

We offer workshops across the year depending on resources. You can see what we currently offer [here](#).

Can you help me get an agent, publish my book or with other 1:1 writing support and advice?

We don't have capacity to offer 1:1 support or other services. We do not maintain a list of literary agents. You might want to look at our [Resources](#) and [Pathway Guides](#).