

Singapore Book Awards 2021 Category Guidelines

Please note that judging for all categories will consider the book's commercialisation strategy and the impact of book sales.

I. Book of the Year

The winning title will be selected from among the following subsidiary award winners.

- Best Literary Work
- Best Non-Fiction Title
- Best Picture Book (5 – 7 years old)
- Best Education Title
- Best Young Persons Title (7 – 18 years old)
- Best Illustrated Non-Fiction Title

II. Best Literary Work

Titles that can be submitted under this category include but are not limited to the following:

- a) Novels
- b) Collections of short stories, etc
- c) Poetry

III. Best Non-Fiction Title

Titles that can be submitted under this category include but are not limited to the following areas:

- current affairs,
- history,
- politics,
- science,
- sport,
- travel,
- biography, autobiography, and

- the arts.

IV. Best Picture Book (5 – 7 years old)

Titles that can be submitted under this category include picture books meant for young readers as well as non-pictorial books meant for readers no older than 7 years of age. The content of these titles should help promote the habit of reading among children from the abovementioned age categories.

V. Best Education Title

Titles submitted under this category include but are not limited to the following:

- a) textbooks;
- b) assessment books; and
- c) educational reference books

Convince us of the educational value of your book. We will only consider books for students in primary, secondary or tertiary education, not professional or graduate education.

VI. Best Young Persons Title (7 – 18 years old)

Titles submitted should appeal to persons aged 7 through 18 years old. These include but are not limited to the following:

- a) Novels
- b) Non-Fiction books
- c) Collection of short stories and/or essays
- d) Poetry

VII. Best Book Cover Design

There's no restriction on the sort of book cover design. Illustrated, typographic, or photographic covers should place an emphasis on visual impact, creativity and design. Please submit a one paragraph statement on the intention of the design.

VIII. Best Illustrated Non-Fiction Title

We are looking for the visually attractive illustrated book, what used to be called “coffee table” books. Illustrated books for children should be submitted in category IV. We are looking for high aesthetic standards, of images, writing and design, the marriage of content, design and production, and the potential for positive social impact.

IX. Best Audio Book

We will consider audiobooks across fiction and non-fiction titles. We will be looking at high standards in the audio quality, voiceovers, as well as technical excellence and the audio interpretation of the print title. The number of downloads and overall sales figures will be considered too.

X. Best Hybrid Book

We will consider printed and electronic books across fiction and non-fiction genres. Books eligible for this category are printed books with digital elements (such as augmented reality) and electronic books with printed or other non-electronic elements. The technical and production qualities as well as commercial impact on overall book sales will also be considered.