

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the American Library in Paris Book Award?

The American Library in Paris Book Award is an annual literary prize for the most distinguished book of the year, written in English, about France or the French. The Book Award is made possible by a generous gift from the Florence Gould Foundation. The Award is administered by the American Library in Paris and advised and supported by its Writers Council.

What kinds of books are eligible?

The American Library in Paris Book Award is not limited by genre. In 2019, the 82 entries included cookbooks, lifestyle guides, memoirs, children's and young adult books, and academic titles as well as works of fiction, history, and criticism.

All submitted books must have been written and published in English and explore France or the French in some way. In order to be eligible for the 2020 award, submitted books must be published on or after 1 July 2019 and on or before 30 June 2020.

My book is self-published. Is it still eligible?

Yes.

My book was originally published online. Does it qualify?

No. Books first published in electronic form or online are not eligible.

My book isn't published in the UK or in the US. Is it still eligible?

Yes. As long as the book matches the eligibility criteria, the country in which it is published is not a consideration. Every year we receive a number of books published in France, Australia, Canada, and elsewhere.

I am not an American citizen. Is my book eligible?

Yes. The competition is open to authors of all nationalities. However, only books originally written in English are eligible.

I am an author. May I submit my own book?

Yes. Submissions may come from authors, publishers, agents, or readers.

My book will be published on 1 July 2020. Is it still eligible?

Only books published between 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020 will be considered for the 2020 Book Award. However, books published on or after 1 July 2020 will be eligible for the 2021 award.



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Do you accept e-books in lieu of hard copies?

No. In order for a submission to be complete, we must receive five finished copies before the 1 May 2020 deadline. However, we do welcome e-books in addition to these five copies, since several members of the screening committee have e-readers and are eager to begin reading.

Do you accept proofs, galleys, or advance copies?

Yes. We would be happy to receive proof copies in advance of the publication date. However, in order for a submission to be complete, we must receive five finished copies before the 1 May 2020 deadline.

My book is an academic title with a high list price. Its cost doesn't permit me or my publisher to send five copies. May I send fewer?

Please contact the Award Coordinator if your book has a list price of £75 / \$75 or over.

Where do I send my submission?

The submission form must be filled in online. You may access it through our website.

Please send books and entry fees to:

The American Library in Paris Book Award
c/o The American Library in Paris
10, rue du Général Camou
75007 Paris
FRANCE

Phone number if needed by shipper: +33 1 53 59 12 60

May the books, submission form, and payment be sent separately?

Yes, but please ensure that the parcel or envelope is clearly labeled for **The American Library in Paris Book Award**.

Any payment coming separately from the submitted books should include a cover note stating the title of the book(s) associated with the check.

What happens after my book is entered?

Once the submission is complete, one copy of your book will be added to the American Library in Paris circulating collection. Four copies are circulated among screening committee members for consideration.

All authors are informed of the Book Award shortlist when it is made public in mid-July. The jury will then select the winning book from the shortlist.

All submitted books are featured in a special Book Award display in the Library in the fall and on the Library's website and online catalog. All authors who entered are invited to the award ceremony in Paris.



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Who is on the jury?

Each year's independent jury is overseen by the members of the Library's Writers Council.

2019 jury – Alice Kaplan, Thomas Chatterton Williams, Pamela Druckerman

2018 jury – Diane Johnson, David Bellos, and Pierre Assouline

2017 jury – Adam Gopnik, Bruno Racine, and Stacy Schiff

2016 jury – Laura Auricchio, Robert Harris, and Robert O. Paxton

2015 jury – Laura Furman, Lily Tuck, and Fredrik Logevall

2014 jury – Alice Kaplan, Sebastian Faulks, and Pierre Assouline

2013 jury – Adam Gopnik, Julian Barnes, and Diane Johnson

Who do I contact if I have further questions?

Orlene McMahon, the Award Coordinator, will be pleased to answer any further questions you may have. You may reach her via e-mail at bookaward@americanlibraryinparis.org.



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