



Category

Author of the Year

What are the judges looking for?

The Author of the Year award treads the fine line between the hard numbers of the bestseller lists and the writing excellence of the literary prizes. It seeks to reward and acknowledge authors whose books have achieved notable success and who have also contributed to the general health of the book world.

Who to nominate?

The winning author's book(s) will need to demonstrate considerable 2023 Nielsen Total Consumer Market success (or if TCM figures are not available, sales success as measured through internal audits, sales against budget, or overseas sales). As sales success is a key component, an author whose book(s) have featured prominently in The Bookseller's charts pages (based on the TCM 5,000) will have an advantage over others.

On top of numerical sales success, publishers should indicate how this author's book(s) have exceeded expectations for their particular genre and increased new readers to the genre or to reading in general.

Where the author's book(s) are published in genres that are supported by prizes, include details of their shortlist or winning history.

The winning author should also have demonstrated either through their writing or advocacy, support for the publishing and bookselling sectors during this period, as well as other authors. Nominators are also encouraged to show how the author has been especially supportive of independent bookshops and the specialist high street chains.

What to submit

- Please submit, through the awards site, a single PDF containing your written nomination of no more than 1,500 words and including required book data. Supplementary material including high-res author and cover images should be included as separate attachments.

Book data to include

- Author name
- Publisher, imprint (if applicable) and editor
- Relevant book titles, ISBNs, and high-res image(s) of book jacket(s) (jpg)
- High-res author image (jpg)
- Agent

Important notice

- Before submitting, publishers should ensure that nominated authors are able to participate in The British Book Awards on Monday 13th May 2024, including any promotional recordings required preceding, during or following the ceremony. Before the judges' final decision, NOTICE will be required to confirm that the winning author (subject to force majeure) can participate. The submitting publisher will be expected to meet the cost of attendance at The British Book Awards. In the instance that the in-person event cannot take place, publishers must make sure authors are available to take part in a virtual event.
- In addition to their trophy, the winner of the Author of the Year award will receive a bespoke, luxury fountain pen from our sponsor Montegrappa - we would be grateful if once they receive it they can provide us either a photo or video of themselves with the pen to share on our social channels.
- Please note, no shortlist is announced for this award, however the author's publisher will be informed before the event, and further information may be disclosed to the winning author ahead of time, as is necessary.
- Our submission site works best with file sizes lower than 50MB. If you encounter any difficulties, please email awards@thebookseller.com.