

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

2012 AWP AWARD SERIES

The Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP) is a nonprofit organization of writers, teachers, colleges, and universities. AWP sponsors an annual competition for the publication of excellent new book-length works—the AWP Award Series. The competition is open to all authors writing in English regardless of nationality or residence.

The Donald Hall Prize for Poetry is an award of \$5,500 and publication for the best book-length manuscript of poetry. This competition is open to published and unpublished poets alike.

The Grace Paley Prize for Short Fiction awards the winner \$5,500 and publication.

Winners in the novel and creative nonfiction categories receive a \$2,500 cash honorarium from AWP and publication.

The Award Series conducts an evaluation process of writers, for writers, by writers. AWP hires a staff of “screeners” who are themselves writers; the screeners review manuscripts for the judges. Typically, the screeners will select ten manuscripts in each genre for each judge’s final evaluations.

Eligibility Requirements

Only book-length manuscripts are eligible. The Award Series defines “book-length” as: poetry—48 pages minimum text; short story collection and creative nonfiction—150–300 manuscript pages; novel—at least 60,000 words.

Poems and stories previously published in periodicals are eligible for inclusion in submissions, but manuscripts previously published in their entirety, including self-published, are not eligible. As the series is judged anonymously, no list of acknowledgements should accompany your manuscript.

The AWP Award Series is open to all authors writing original works in English for adult readers. No mixed-genre manuscripts can be accepted. Criticism and scholarly monographs are not acceptable for creative nonfiction, which the Award Series defines as factual and literary writing that has the narrative, dramatic, meditative, and lyrical elements of novels, plays, poetry, and memoirs.

To avoid conflict of interest and to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest, friends and former

Manuscript Format Guidelines

Manuscripts must be typed and double-spaced on good quality paper, 8½ x 11 inches. Poetry manuscripts may be single-spaced. Photocopies or copies from letter-quality printers are acceptable, but dot matrix is not acceptable. Manuscripts should not be bound or in a folder; they must be binder-clipped or rubber-banded together.

Each manuscript must include:

1. The official AWP Award Series entry form, which includes spaces for your name, manuscript title, contact information, and an agreement to the terms of the Award Series. Please download this form from our website, enter all the information, and attach it to the manuscript as the cover page.
2. A title page with the manuscript title only. The entry form will be removed so that each submission can be read anonymously. If the author’s name appears anywhere except the entry form, the manuscript will be disqualified. Do not send acknowledgement of previous publications or a biographical note.

students of a judge (former students who studied with a judge in an academic degree-conferring program or its equivalent) are ineligible to enter the competition in the genre for which their former teacher is serving as judge.

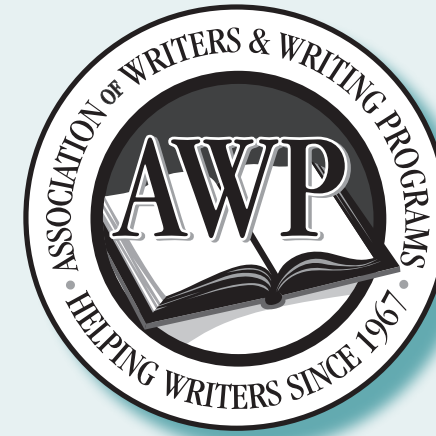
AWP makes every effort to vary the judges by region, aesthetic, and institution so that writers, if ineligible one year, will certainly be eligible other years.

If a contestant wins in any genre, he/she may not enter the competition again in the same genre for the next five consecutive years.

You may submit your manuscript to other publishers while it is under consideration by the Award Series, but you must notify AWP immediately in writing if your manuscript is accepted elsewhere. No e-mails or phone calls, please.

AWP cannot consider manuscript revisions during the course of the contest, but the winning authors will have an opportunity to revise their works before publication. Please read carefully the entry requirements and guidelines before submitting your work.

www.awpwriter.org



Entry Requirements

- An entry fee of \$30 for nonmembers and \$15 for AWP members (not *Chronicle* subscribers). Make your check or money order in U.S. dollars, drawn on a U.S. bank, payable to AWP. All entry fees are nonrefundable.
- An official AWP entry form, completed with the required information. Go to www.awpwriter.org to download the form, or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to AWP Award Series and request the entry form.
- Include a self-addressed, stamped postcard for notification that the entry has reached AWP. Notification will include your log number for the competition. Please use this number in corresponding with AWP regarding your entry. Due to the high volume of manuscripts, we cannot acknowledge receipt by phone.
- Also include a self-addressed, stamped envelope, business size (9½ x 4 inches), if you would like direct notification of contest results. Results will be mailed in September of 2012. Do not include an envelope for the return of your manuscripts. No manuscripts can be returned.
- Send one copy of each manuscript entered, prepared according to manuscript format guidelines.
- You may enter in more than one genre, and you may also enter multiple manuscripts in one genre, provided that each manuscript is accompanied by its own entry form, postcard, and entry fee.

Deadline

Manuscripts must be postmarked between Jan. 1 and Feb. 29, 2012. All manuscripts and correspondence should be sent to:

AWP Award Series in (genre entered)
The Association of Writers & Writing Programs
Carty House, Mail Stop 1E3
George Mason University
Fairfax, VA 22030-4444

Terms

- Your submitted manuscript must be an original work of which you are the sole author.
- Your manuscript must be submitted in accordance with the eligibility requirements, format guidelines, and entry requirements or it will be disqualified.
- No entry fees or manuscripts will be returned.
- This competition is void where prohibited or restricted by law.
- The decision of the judge is final. The judge may choose no winner if he or she finds no manuscript that, in his or her estimation, merits publication and the award.

Prizes, Judges, & Presses

Donald Hall Prize for Poetry: \$5,500
Arthur Sze
University of Pittsburgh Press

Grace Paley Prize for Short Fiction: \$5,500
Dan Chaon
University of Massachusetts Press

AWP Prize for Creative Nonfiction: \$2,500
Terry Tempest Williams
University of Georgia Press

AWP Prize for the Novel: \$2,500
Kathryn Davis
New Issues Press

Donald Hall Prize for Poetry

	Judge	Winner
2007	Bob Hicok	Sharon Dolin <i>Burn and Dodge</i>
2008	Lynn Emanuel	Beth Bachmann <i>Temper</i>
2009	Jean Valentine	Bradley Paul <i>The Animals Are Gathering</i>
2010	Alberto Ríos	Quan Barry <i>Water Puppets</i>
2011	Dorianne Laux	Laura Read <i>Instructions for my Mother's Funeral</i>

AWP Prize for Creative Nonfiction

2007	Michael Martone	Sharon White <i>Gardens & The City: Nature Brought Home</i>
2008	Kathleen Norris	Sonja Livingston <i>Ghostbread</i>
2009	Lee Gutkind	David Vann <i>Last Day On Earth</i>
2010	Luis Alberto Urrea	Danielle Cadena Deulen <i>The Riots</i>
2011	Susan Orlean	Marcia Aldrich <i>Companion to an Untold Story</i>

AWP Prize for the Novel

	Judge	Winner
2007	Robert Eversz	Scott Blackwood <i>We Agreed to Meet Just Here</i>
2008	Joanna Scott	Goldie Goldbloom <i>Invaded</i>
2009	Jim Shepard	Kevin Fenton <i>Merit Badges</i>
2010	Francine Prose	Mandy Keifetz <i>Flea Circus: A Brief Bestiary of Grief</i>
2011	Don Lee	Kirstin Scott <i>Motherlunge</i>

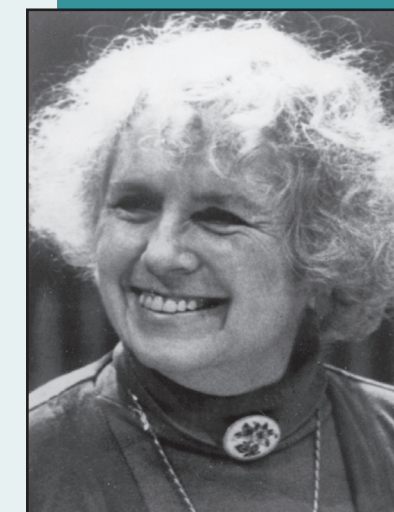
Grace Paley Prize for Short Fiction

2007	Noy Holland	David Vann <i>Legend of a Suicide</i>
2008	Jewell Parker Rhodes	Ramola D <i>Temporary Lives & Other Stories</i>
2009	Allan Gurganus	Christine Sneed <i>Portraits of a Few of the People I've Made Cry</i>
2010	Peter Ho Davies	Douglas Light <i>Girls in Trouble</i>
2011	Jhumpa Lahiri	Corinna Vallianatos <i>My Escapee</i>

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A Literary Competition for the Discovery & Publication of Excellent New Works

**Grace Paley Prize for Short Fiction
\$5,500 & Publication**



Grace Paley

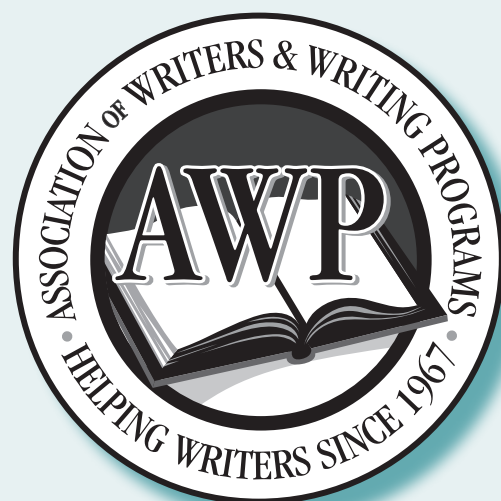
**AWP Prize for Creative Nonfiction
\$2,500 & Publication**



Donald Hall

**Donald Hall Prize for Poetry
\$5,500 & Publication**

**AWP Prize for the Novel
\$2,500 & Publication**



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