



## Ockham New Zealand Book Awards 2018 - Call for Entries

**SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION TO OCKHAM NEW ZEALAND BOOK AWARDS**

**SECTION 2: 2018 AWARDS DATES**

**SECTION 3: 2018 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

**SECTION 4: 2018 CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

**SECTION 5: HOW TO ENTER**

**SECTION 6: JUDGING CRITERIA**

### Introduction to Ockham New Zealand Book Awards

The Ockham New Zealand Book Awards annually recognise excellence in New Zealand books written in English or Te Reo Māori.

The principal sponsors of the awards are Ockham Residential, the Acorn Foundation, the Royal Society Te Apārangi and Creative New Zealand. The awards are also supported by Book Tokens (NZ) Ltd and are administered by the Auckland Writers Festival on behalf of the New Zealand Book Awards Trust.

#### Major Awards

Acorn Foundation Fiction Prize	\$50,000
Royal Society Te Apārangi Award for General Non-Fiction	\$10,000
Illustrated Non-Fiction Award	\$10,000
Poetry Award	\$10,000

#### Best First Book Awards

Books submitted for the major annual awards can also be considered for the Best First Book Awards:

- Hubert Church Best First Book Award for Fiction
- Jessie Mackay Best First Book Award for Poetry
- E.H McCormick Best First Book Award for General Non-Fiction
- Judith Binney Best First Book Award for Illustrated Non-Fiction

Each category winner will receive \$2500 and a 12-month membership of the New Zealand Society of Authors.

#### Māori Language Award

Books submitted in any of the above categories written wholly in Te Reo Māori will be eligible for the Māori Language Award of \$10,000, awarded at the judges' discretion.

## 2018 Awards Dates

### Key dates

Submissions open for books published 1 Jan-31 Aug 2017	7 Aug 2017
Final submission date for books published 1 Jan-31 Aug 2017	4 Sep 2017
Submissions open for books published 1 Sep-31 Dec 2017	5 Sep 2017
Final submission date for books published 1 Sep-31 Dec 2017	5 Oct 2017
Announcement of longlist of up to 10 books in each major category	28 Nov 2017
Announcement of shortlist of four books in each major category	6 Mar 2018
Ockham New Zealand Book Awards ceremony – all winners announced	15 May 2018

## 2018 Eligibility Criteria

1. The 2018 Ockham New Zealand Book Awards are open to books published between **1 January 2017 and 31 December 2017**.  
*Printed books are considered published when first made available for distribution in New Zealand. E-books are considered published when widely available via at least two major online retailers.*
2. Books may only be submitted with the knowledge and agreement of the author(s) and illustrator(s).
3. A printed book must be readily available to all booksellers, at usual trade terms, for on-sale to members of the public, and will also be readily available should the book be selected as a finalist.  
E-books must be widely available for purchase online, and will also be readily available should the book be selected as a longlist finalist. Major mainstream online e-book retailers are defined as Amazon, Apple iBooks, Google Play and Kobo.  
Any e-books submitted for the Acorn Foundation Fiction Prize must be made available in printed format within 21 working days of being longlisted. And if a printed book submitted for the Acorn Foundation Fiction Prize is longlisted, it must be made available for sale as an e-book within 21 working days of its longlisting.
4. Principal author(s) must be New Zealand citizens by birth, naturalisation, or immigration, or have held a Permanent Resident Visa in New Zealand for a period of at least five years preceding the publication of their book. The principal author(s) must be the major contributor(s) of the book being submitted, with at least 50 percent input. Publishers must clearly define the 50 percent of the work which has been written by the principal author(s).
5. Books by New Zealand authors living overseas are eligible if the book has been published during the period stipulated for eligibility.
6. Deceased authors' books are not eligible for entry unless the author passed away after the book was submitted to and accepted by its publisher.
7. Reprints and re-issues of previously published works are not eligible. A new print run of a previously published book, without alteration, is considered a reprint. A new issue of a previously published book, where minimal alteration has been made (e.g. jacket design, format, imprint etc.) is considered a reissue.

New editions which contain substantial revision, adding a minimum of 50% new content and re-interpretation, are eligible. Where a new edition is submitted, the publisher must supply a copy of the previous edition of the book, with an explanation of the degree of revision. Selections or collections of previously published work by a single author are eligible if they offer a new view of the author's past work, and the new work they contain would meet the criteria for a book in its own right, in the relevant category. **Please note separate eligibility criteria for the Acorn Foundation Fiction Prize in terms of previously published material, in clause 10.**

8. Books published with the assistance of grants or subsidies are eligible.
9. Books written in English and books written in Te Reo Māori are eligible. Where books contain content in languages other than English or Te Reo Māori, that material will be discounted from consideration. Books in translation from other languages are not eligible.
10. In respect of the **Acorn Foundation Fiction Prize**, both short stories by a single author and novels are eligible. Entries must be original and substantial in length, and in the case of a collection of short stories, should be a unified and coherent collection of which a minimum 30 per cent of the content (assessed by word count) must be entirely new and may not have been published previously in any form. The remaining seventy per cent may consist of content previously published in a book of short stories by the author, in journals, magazines, in commissioned anthologies, on websites and broadcast. The publisher must supply a breakdown of previous publication of the stories or any parts thereof when submitting collections.
11. In respect of the **Poetry Award**, which includes selections and collections of poetry, entries must contain at least 24 pages. Anthologies of poetry by two or more authors will be eligible if they contain sufficient new work to meet the criteria for a book in its own right.
12. In respect of the **Royal Society Te Apārangi Award for General Non-Fiction**, which recognises excellence in primarily text-based non-fiction work, entries must contain 48 pages or more. Books that include the work of two or more authors are eligible.
13. In respect of the **Illustrated Non-Fiction Award** - which recognises excellence in works that have strong illustrative content in which the substance and impact of the work is either carried primarily by illustrated material with complementary text OR the substance and impact results from the combined strength of illustration and text - entries must contain 48 pages or more. Books that include the work of two or more authors (which may include photographers and/or artists) are eligible.
14. In respect of the **Māori Language Award**, eligible books must be wholly written in Te Reo Māori and may be written by one or more authors. NB This award is given at the judges' discretion.
15. The four **Best First Book Awards** recognise work of quality by an author for whom the entry is their first published book in any genre, under any name, with the following provisos:
  - a. Previous publication of written work (including extracts or parts of the submitted book) in magazines, newspapers, literary journals, anthologies and other media will not make the author ineligible.
  - b. Previous publication of a book of fiction or non-fiction of fewer than 48 pages, a book of poetry of fewer than 24 pages, or a children's book of fewer than 16 pages will not make the author ineligible.
  - c. A contribution by the author of less than 50% to a previously published book will not make the author ineligible.
  - d. In general, awards will be made to single-authored titles. However, co-authors will be considered eligible where they are both previously unpublished; and multi-authored books where one or more of the contributors has been published previously will be considered eligible if 75% of the book is the work of the unpublished writer.

- e. An editor whose main contribution to a book has been to present others' words and whose writing amounts to less than half of the text of the book is not deemed to be an author for the purposes of the Best First Book awards, and such books will not be eligible for these awards.
  - f. Books written in Te Reo Māori and submitted for judging for the Māori Language award may also be considered for a Best First Book award.
16. The final decision on the eligibility of any submission rests with the New Zealand Book Awards Trust. No correspondence will be entered into.

***Please note:***

***In completing a submission to the Ockham New Zealand Book Awards, responsibility for clarifying the interpretation of eligibility criteria and conditions of entry lies with the publisher.***

***Where a book is accepted as eligible, and it is subsequently determined that the book is ineligible due to the publisher's misinterpretation of eligibility criteria and/or conditions of entry, and/or failure to disclose relevant information, the publisher will be liable for any associated costs and the entry fee will not be refunded.***

## **2018 Conditions of Entry**

1. Eligible books must have been published between **1 January 2017 and 31 December 2017**.
2. Entries are to be made in accordance with the following dates:
  - Books published between 1 January and 31 August 2017 must be submitted **no later than 5pm, Monday, 4 September 2017**.
  - Books published between 1 September and 31 December 2017 must be submitted **no earlier than Tuesday 5 September 2017 and no later than 5pm, Thursday, 5 October 2017**.

**NB: Submissions received after these dates will absolutely not be considered.**

3. All **print** entries must have been widely offered nationally to retail bookshops by the time of the submission, with in-store release intended no later than December 31 2017.

All **e-book** entries must be widely available online at the time of submission, with release via at least two major online retailers intended no later than December 31 2017. E-books submitted for the Acorn Foundation Fiction Prize must become p-books within 21 working days of being longlisted.

4. Publishers are required to guarantee that all books submitted will be readily available to the public and to all booksellers, at standard trade terms. These terms would generally include discount to bookshops (based on GST inclusive retail price) of no less than 35%, delivery free to store within one week of order (small order surcharges may apply), and advance agreement on sale or return or firm sale terms.
5. Publishers are required to guarantee that they will not remainder books submitted for the awards prior to the Awards ceremony.
6. Physical copies / e-book access as appropriate must be provided at time of submission. Details of this are contained in the 'How to Enter' section below. **No entry will be deemed to be eligible until copies / e-book links are received.**

7. The organisers will accept bound proofs of books with an October, November and December on-sale date if the physical book is not yet with the publisher at the time that submissions close, but the stipulated number of physical copies of the book must be with the organisers no later than 5pm Thursday 2 November 2017. **Late submissions will not be considered.**
8. All entries MUST be accompanied by the following materials which should be uploaded with your entry:
  - A detailed Title Information sheet
  - A hi-res print quality digital image of the author/illustrator and book cover for media use at 300 dpi
  - A hi-res print quality digital image of the book cover at 300 dpi
  - For e-books, metadata proof of publication date, and advice on download expiry dates.

**Unless these requirements are met the entry will not be considered eligible.**

9. Publishers of shortlisted titles will be required to supply **six (6) additional copies** of each title for promotional purposes immediately on announcement of shortlisting.
10. Publishers of shortlisted and winning titles must make every endeavour to sticker their titles with the awards stickers supplied by the New Zealand Book Awards Trust.
11. Any subsequent reprint should include an approved reference to the appropriate award on the book jacket, the text to be approved by the Awards Manager prior to printing.
12. Publishers may, during the awards period, publish a paperback edition of a book selected as a finalist in a hardback edition. Full details of the paperback edition (ISBN, RRP, release date etc.) must be provided as soon as possible after the publisher is advised that the book has been selected as a finalist. Details of both editions will be noted in publicity material.
13. All books submitted must be entered with the knowledge and agreement of the authors and illustrators concerned.
14. Publishers must guarantee that, with the exception of **extreme and unforeseen circumstances**, all finalist authors and illustrators will be present at the Awards Ceremony to be staged on **May 15 2018 in Auckland**.
15. Travel and accommodation costs for authors and illustrators attending the awards ceremony are the responsibility of the submitting publisher.
16. Entry Fees: A flat fee of NZ\$160.00 (including GST) will apply for each print or e-book entered. This fee is to be paid online by credit card at time of entry.
17. Publishers submitting entries are asked to make all reasonable efforts to ensure their authors are available for promotional work during March to May 2018.
18. Category award finalists are asked to be available for a finalists' lunch on the day of the Awards, May 15 2018 and must attend the Awards Ceremony after-party event.
19. Category winners may be required to appear in winning-author related events at the Auckland Writers Festival.
20. Books entered in the awards will not be returned under any circumstances.
21. Publishers must in all instances refer to the fiction category award as the **Acorn Foundation Fiction Prize** and to the general non-fiction category as the **Royal Society Te Apārangi Award for General Non-Fiction**.

22. The decision of the judges is final. No correspondence will be entered into between publishers or authors and the judges.
23. Queries on eligibility or any other queries should be directed to Awards Administrator Christina Chan, telephone: 09 376 8074 x1, email: [awards@nzbookawards.org.nz](mailto:awards@nzbookawards.org.nz)

## How to Enter

1. All entries must be submitted online at [www.nzbookawards.nz](http://www.nzbookawards.nz)
2. Submissions may be made singly or you can submit several titles at once.
3. You must complete one copy of the Title Submission form and one Declaration per title entered. At any time you can finish submissions and move to the payment screen.
4. For both print and e-book titles: a Title Information sheet and hi-res digital author and cover images must be uploaded at the time an entry is submitted.
5. For e-books: metadata proof of publication date and details on download expiry dates are also required.
6. Payments will only be accepted online by credit card.
7. For all titles, materials must be forwarded to the Awards Administrator at the same time as submission:

- In respect of print books:
  - FOUR (4) copies of each title being submitted must be received by the Awards Administrator no later than four days after submission of the online entry form
  - For titles with an onsale date of October, November or December where the physical book is not yet with the publisher, four bound proof copies should be submitted within the four day deadline (note – physical copies of the book must be with the Administrator no later than 5pm Thursday 2 November)
  - The delivery address for physical books and bound proof copies is:

Ockham New Zealand Book Awards  
c/- Auckland Writers Festival  
Suite 9A Wellesley Centre  
44-52 Wellesley Street  
Auckland 1010

*The Awards Administrator will acknowledge receipt - please keep your tracking number in case of any issues.*

***NB: The address for book deliveries has changed from previous years.***

***Please ensure that distribution staff are aware of the correct address.***

- In respect of e-books, **directions for downloading four copies** must be emailed to [awards@nzbookawards.org.nz](mailto:awards@nzbookawards.org.nz). Files should be submitted as file type .epub, .mobi or the file type applicable for an e-reader. Please also submit links to the websites where the book is for sale to the New Zealand public to demonstrate the e-book meets the distribution criteria.

# 2018 Judging Process and Criteria

## The Judging Process

Four panels of three judges each will be appointed by the New Zealand Book Awards Trust to judge the awards. An additional Māori Language advisor will be appointed if required.

Judges are empowered to request additional expert assistance in the judging process if, in their opinion, the skills of the judging panel are not sufficient to give all submissions full and fair assessment.

Publisher submissions in each of the four categories will be judged by four panels of three category judges, who will decide the longlist, the shortlist and the winners. They will also decide the four Best First Book winners in the four main category genres. In the case of the Acorn Foundation Fiction Prize, an international judge will be invited to join the local judges in determining the overall winner from the finalists.

The panels of judges may, at their discretion, establish the finalists to be considered as the winner of the Māori Language award.

## General Judging Criteria

The objective of the Ockham New Zealand Book Awards is to promote excellence in, and provide recognition for, the best books published annually in New Zealand. The judges are tasked with meeting that objective.

## Judging guidelines

Judges will consider the books as a whole. Attention will be given to the integration of all the contributing elements that constitute the finished product including:

- Enduring literary merit and the overall quality of authorship
- Quality of illustration and graphic presentation, as applicable
- Production factors including jacket design, general design, typography, indexing and the standard of editing.
- Impact of the book on the community, taking account of factors such as topicality, public interest, commercial viability, entertainment, cultural and educational values, lifespan and value for money.
- For the **Acorn Foundation Fiction Prize**, the degree to which the book engages and nourishes the reader's intellect and imagination and, for short story collections, to which the stories are a unified and coherent whole.
- For the **Te Reo Māori Language Award**, the judge is looking for a well-written work of high literary merit which demonstrates creative insight.