



# CALL FOR JUDGES

## THE FLORIDA AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S BOOK AWARDS

**Do you have a passion for reading and a desire to share your enthusiasm for literature with the world?**

Would you like to read the latest books and discover the next brilliant author?  
Are you looking for a rewarding experience where you can read a variety of books and actively participate in identifying excellence in newly published works?

If your answer is “yes” to one or more of these questions, you are cordially invited to become a judge for one of the largest book awards in the state of Florida— *The Florida Authors and Publishers Association Annual President's Book Awards*.

The *Florida Authors and Publishers Association* (FAPA) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) dedicated to providing the most current quality information, valuable resources, professional development, and networking opportunities to its members and to anyone with an interest in writing and publishing in the state of Florida and beyond. FAPA members are authors, publishers, editors, illustrators, publicists, and other professionals in the book industry. Originally organized by six individuals as the *Florida Publishers Group* in 1983, the organization quickly grew and eventually expanded to become the *Florida Authors and Publishers Association* in 2013. FAPA is currently one of the few nonprofit organizations for authors and publishers in the United States dedicated to recognizing excellence in the book industry.

Unlike writer's groups, FAPA provides resources for authors and publishers once the writing process is complete. After a new author has developed a manuscript, vetted it with friends, family, and other beta readers, and had it scrutinized by their local writer's group, they are confronted with a maze of decisions. FAPA exists to guide these new authors through the publishing, printing, and marketing process.

The FAPA President's Book Awards program officially recognizes book publishing excellence and creativity in design, content, and production for authors and publishers.

Winners are officially honored at the FAPA President's Book Awards Celebration, the culminating event of FAPA's annual conference. Awardees receive a gold, silver, or bronze medal for the category in their genre and may display the FAPA President's Book Awards Seal on their winning books.

Submissions open each year in October and remain open until the end of April. Each entry is evaluated on content, theme, layout, editing, and appropriateness and relevance in the category entered. We use Submittable as the online submission and grading platform. This program streamlines the process and simplifies the technical aspects of judging.



Once a potential judge has completed the application and is accepted, the FAPA judge coordinator will send them an email invitation to enroll in Submittable as a judge. Enrolled judges will receive an email from Submittable with a link that takes them directly to a PDF of each assigned book, along with a rubric and scoring criteria. Ten questions for each book are scored on a ten-point scale according to the rubric, with a space at the end for the judge's comments.

A book displaying the FAPA President's Book Award indicates the work of a highly accomplished author, publisher, or illustrator. Each book entered in the contest is evaluated by a team of three dedicated professionals, most of whom are librarians from throughout the United States. These professionals have the ability to identify excellence in a variety of genres and know which books patrons will enjoy reading. They are highly qualified to decide which recently published books are worthy of the esteemed FAPA President's Book Award Seal.

This fair and honest awards contest would not be possible without the continued support of the Florida Library Association. By providing hundreds of reliable, responsible, and dependable judges over the past years, the FLA has contributed invaluable input, scoring consistency, and accuracy to the FAPA awards judging process. We look forward to strengthening and growing this partnership even further by encouraging every library system in Florida to be represented on the judging team.

We sincerely hope that you will consider judging for the FAPA President's Book Awards this year.

[Click here for the FAPA Judge Application](http://www.myfapa.org) or visit [www.myfapa.org](http://www.myfapa.org) for more information.

**Categories include:**

- Adult Fiction: Historical
- Adult Fiction: Mystery/Suspense
- Adult Fiction: Thriller/Horror
- Adult Fiction: Romance
- Adult Fiction: Sci-Fi
- Adult Fiction: Fantasy
- Adult Fiction: Anthology/Collection
- Adult Non-Fiction: General
- Young Adult: Fiction
- Middle Grades: Fiction
- Children: Chapter Books
- Children: Beginning Reader
- Children: Prereader/Picture Book
- Travel/Geography
- Science/Nature
- Coloring/Activity Book
- Biography
- Autobiography/Memoir
- Business/Technology
- How-To/Instructional/Self-Help
- Inspirational/Motivational
- Religion/Spirituality
- Fitness/Sports/Recreation
- History
- Fitness/Health
- Humor/Comedy
- Political/Current Events
- Cover Design: Adult
- Cover Design: Young Adult
- Cover Design: Juvenile