

# 2020 INDIE AUTHOR PROJECT CONTESTS

## FOR JUDGES

### What & Why

In an effort to further encourage strong relationships between indie authors, local libraries, and readers, BiblioBoard and *Library Journal* are partnering with libraries across the U.S. and Canada to mobilize the annual Indie Author Project contests. These contests seek to identify and showcase the best indie-published eBooks each participating region has to offer in the genres of Adult and Young Adult Fiction.

### Who

**BiblioBoard Library:** As sponsors of the contest, the BiblioBoard team provides marketing materials, submission and hosting software, as well as support in facilitating the judging process. BiblioBoard will train the judging committee members, assign titles, organize check-in calls, and ensure the committee remains on schedule.

**Library Journal:** In addition to co-sponsoring the contest, the *Library Journal* team also conducts the initial round of vetting for all submissions. *Library Journal* assesses all the contest submissions as they come through and only passes along the high-quality titles to the respective judging committees.

**Judging Committee:** Judging committees are responsible for identifying the finalists and winners for each region out of the submissions passed along by *Library Journal*. The number of submissions each judge is assigned will vary based on the size of the committee, the number of submissions, and each judge's own velocity.



## Where

CALIFORNIA • COLORADO • CONNECTICUT • FLORIDA • ILLINOIS • LOUISIANA • MINNESOTA \* MISSOURI  
NEW YORK • NORTH CAROLINA • OHIO • TEXAS • VIRGINIA • WEST VIRGINIA • ONTARIO, CANADA

## How

BiblioBoard provides the submission software for indie authors to submit their eBooks and hosts the submissions on the BiblioBoard Library platform. Judges will be provided with their own BiblioBoard Library account to access and assess their assigned titles. Submissions will be assessed based on the following criteria:

### Grammar and syntax

- Submissions must be proofread carefully and free from distracting grammatical and syntactical errors.

### Plot and pacing

- The Indie Author Project strives to curate a collection of diverse and unique stories. Works featuring tired tropes, uneven pacing, convoluted narratives, and other similar issues should not be chosen.

### Characterization

- Characters should be multi-dimensional and avoid harmful stereotypes.

### Sensitivity

- Books will be evaluated for cultural competency. Fiction can of course deal with and tackle prejudice, but submissions that reflect or excuse racist, homophobic, sexist, ableist, etc. views/language will not be tolerated by the Indie Author Project.
- **General appeal and reader interest**
- **YA submissions should be age-appropriate**

For additional information and resources, visit [indieauthorproject.com](http://indieauthorproject.com) and join the #IndieAuthorProject movement on social media:

 [@indieauthorproj](https://twitter.com/indieauthorproj)

 [@indieauthorproject](https://www.instagram.com/indieauthorproject)

 [/indieauthorproject](https://www.facebook.com/indieauthorproject)