**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

***[Region] libraries launch local author contest***

*[Region] Author Project creates opportunities for indie-published authors*

[ *Library* ] is pleased to join in the announcement of a local author contest that will accept submissions of adult and young adult fiction, to be recognized as the top indie-published eBooks in *[Region]*.

Winners in each category will receive **$1,000** as well as:

* Honors at the 2023 Indie Author Day Reception
* Opportunities to promote the winning title at [*Region*] public libraries
* Inclusion in a full-page spread in *Library Journal*, one of America’s oldest and most renowned trade publications for library news
* Opportunities to earn royalties through the IAP Select collection *(ePUB format required for eligibility)*

The creation of the [*Region*] Author Project gives librarians not only a chance to engage with a growing group of fresh literary voices but also an opportunity to play an active role in the discovery and promotion of new works.

For indie-published authors, the contest is a fantastic prospect to elevate their careers and expand their readership. Along with the accolade of the award and its perks, being recognized by librarians creates credibility and visibility in the growing marketplace of digital content and indie-published books. Winning authors will reach hundreds if not thousands of new readers via the library, and can also leverage being an award-winning indie author for additional marketing opportunities.

[Quote from the library on connecting with and supporting local indie authors]

Each book that is submitted to the contest must be:

* Independently-published
* In the category of adult or young adult fiction
* Written by a [*Region*] resident
* Available in either ePUB ***(strongly encouraged)*** or PDF format

The contest will accept submissions from April 1, 2023 through May 31, 2023. Authors can submit at https://indieauthorproject.librariesshare.com/[*region*].

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