Indie Author Project

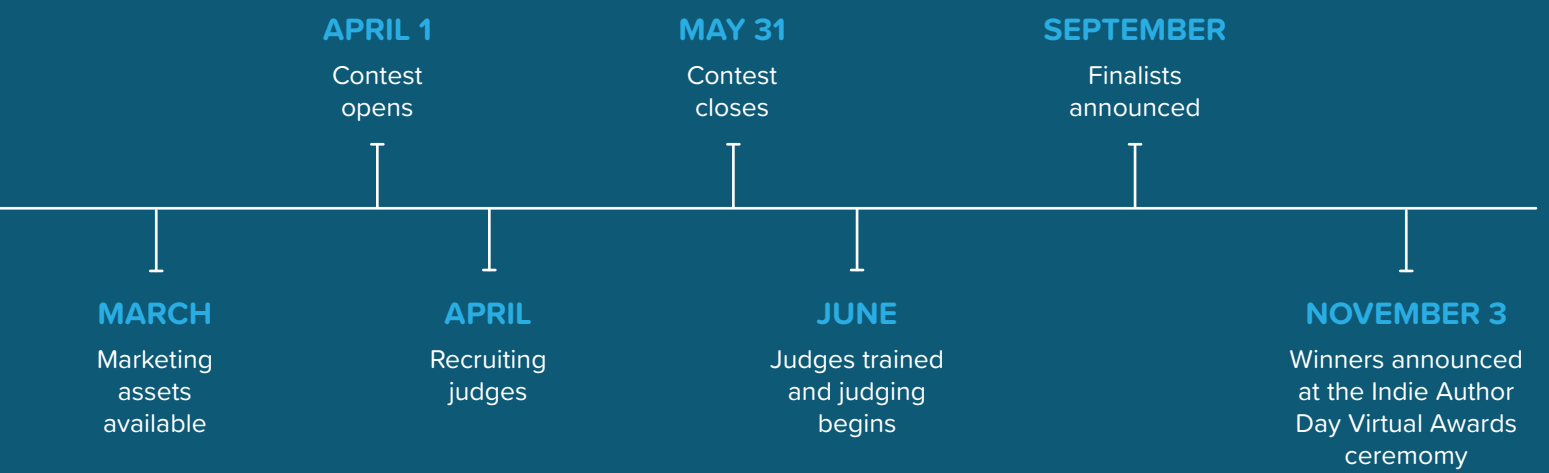# INDIE AUTHOR PROJECT CONTESTS
FOR JUDGES

What & Why

In an effort to further encourage strong relationships between indie authors, local libraries, and readers, BiblioLabs 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 BiblioLabs team provides marketing materials, submission and hosting software, as well as support in facilitating the judging process. BiblioLabs 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.

PLEASE CONTACT **NASH.STEELE@LYRASIS.ORG** WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

APRIL 1
Contest
opens

MAY 31
Contest
closes

SEPTEMBER
Finalists
announced

MARCH
Marketing
assets
available

APRIL
Recruiting
judges

JUNE
Judges trained
and judging
begins

NOVEMBER 3
Winners announced
at the Indie Author
Day Virtual Awards
ceremomy

Where

ALBERTA, CANADA • CALIFORNIA • COLORADO • CONNECTICUT • FLORIDA • ILLINOIS • LOUISIANA • MINNESOTA • MISSOURI
NEVADA • NEW YORK • NORTH CAROLINA • TEXAS • VIRGINIA • WASHINGTON • WEST VIRGINIA • ONTARIO, CANADA

How

BiblioLabs 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**