



**The Royal Society  
of Literature**

The Royal Society of Literature  
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# The Royal Society of Literature Giles St Aubyn Awards for Non-Fiction 2019

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'I'm truly elated that the RSL will help me do justice to the cutting-edge research and pressing contemporary issues my book surveys.'

Laurence Blair, 2018 Winner of £10,000 Award

**Judges for the 2019 Awards are Fiona St Aubyn (Chair),  
Rachel Hewitt and Kenan Malik**

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**Rules and Entry Form**  
**Closing date: 16 September 2019**

## 1. The Awards

a) Two awards will be presented, one of £10,000 and one of £5,000, to provide financial support for talented new writers to complete their first book of non-fiction for a mainstream audience, especially by buying them time for writing or research.  
b) The judges will be responsible for selecting the winning submissions. These will be announced at a reception in London in November 2019, at which the winners would be present.

c) The judging will take the following into consideration:  
i. literary quality  
ii. financial need  
iii. evidence that the Award would make a difference to the writer and their book.  
d) Once published, we request that the book includes an acknowledgement, crediting the RSL Giles St Aubyn Awards for Non-Fiction, and that a copy is sent to the RSL.  
e) The Awards are administered in all respects by the Royal Society of Literature.

## 2. Eligible Entries

a) The Awards are open to writers for their **first** commissioned works of non-fiction. Entrants may have previously published work for an academic audience, or may have edited books of writing mainly by others, but the submitted entry must be their first substantial work of non-fiction for a general readership. Entries from writers well-established in another genre are unlikely to be accepted.  
b) The writer must be resident in the United Kingdom (UK) or Republic or Ireland (RoI).

c) The submission date to the publisher should be no earlier than **1 April 2020**, as the money is expected to be used to finish the project/work, for example to allow time away from other employment or to finance research, including travel.  
d) Only books due to be published in the UK or RoI, by UK- or RoI-based publishers will be considered.  
e) Books written in another language, or to be translated into English, are not eligible.  
f) There is no limit to the number of projects each publisher, agent or editor may submit. We would not expect a submission of more than work by any one writer.

## 3. Entry

a) Applications must be submitted by **5pm on Monday 16 September** and include **all** of the documents below in the following order:  
i. a letter of support from the publishing editor (1 page)  
ii. a statement from the writer about their work and how an Award would further this particular project, including a brief summary of their financial circumstances (max. 2 pages)  
iii. a synopsis of the book, outlining the time frame for research and writing (max. 2 pages)

iv. a draft chapter of the book or other brief sample of writing up to 20 pages  
v. a signed copy of the contract with the publisher.  
b) Please fill out the form opposite and send completed applications to: **martha.stenhouse@rsliterature.org** with RSL Giles St Aubyn Awards for Non-Fiction as the subject line.

Postal entries should be sent to:  
Martha Stenhouse  
RSL Giles St Aubyn Awards for Non-Fiction  
Royal Society of Literature  
Somerset House  
London WC2R 1LA



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Please return the form and all requested documentation by 16 September.

**Working title/subject:**

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**Author (name, contact  
number and email):**

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**Author  
Address:**

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**Publisher:**

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**Editor (name, contact  
number and email):**

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**Agent (name, contact  
number and email):**

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**Advance:**

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**Proposed delivery date:**

**Proposed publication date:**

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**Titles and publishers  
of any previous  
publications in any  
genre, including  
self-published:**

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I confirm that the writer is resident in the UK/RoI and that I have attached **all** of the documents listed in 3.a) ( please tick)