



RSL OPEN

Eligibility criteria and recommendation terms and conditions

Eligibility criteria:

The recommended writer must:

- Have had published in the United Kingdom at least two substantial works (or a sufficient body of other work) in the English language considered by the nominating panel and Council to be of outstanding literary merit;
- Be a citizen of, or resident in, the United Kingdom at the time of recommendation; and
- Be a writer whose work might be overlooked in UK literary culture because they identify as a writer of colour, an LGBTQ+ writer, a disabled writer, or because they identify as working-class, or come from a lower socio-economic background, or because they live and work outside London, or for another reason.

Terms and conditions:

- Recommenders should not inform the recommended writers that they are being considered for nomination – **all recommendations are strictly confidential**. Any lobbying by writers for recommendation is strictly prohibited
- The RSL will maintain the confidentiality of recommendations and recommenders' contact details
- The recommender may not be related to the recommended writer – the recommended writer may not be the recommender's spouse/partner, sibling, child, or parent, or student, as this would constitute a conflict of interest. The recommender should declare their connection to the recommended writer on the recommendation form
- RSL staff are not permitted to recommend writers for consideration, as this would constitute a conflict of interest
- There is no limit to the number of recommendations that can be submitted by a recommender. Each recommendation should be submitted with a separate form
- The RSL will not respond to all recommendations received, but may contact the recommender for further information relating to their recommendation
- The nominating panel and Council's decision is final; there will be no right of appeal from recommenders or recommended writers
- Only digital recommendations can be accepted, please fill out the form [here](#).

Please also complete an equal opportunities monitoring form, the information on which will be treated in the strictest confidence and not linked to recommendations. The link to this will be provided once you have submitted your recommendation.