



The Royal Society
of Literature



Sky Arts RSL Writers Awards 2022

Eligibility and Entry Guidelines

1. The Awards

- a) Five Awards are available, providing each winner with ten free mentoring sessions over the course of 12 months, as well as two sessions with Awards Ambassador Bernardine Evaristo.
- b) The Awards Ambassador, RSL Fellow Mentors, and the RSL will be responsible for choosing the Mentee, who will be announced in September.
- c) Sessions will take place in person or via video calls, depending on travel constraints and the preferences of the Mentors and Mentees.
- d) The Awards are administered in all respects by the Royal Society of Literature.

2. Eligible Applicants

- a) The Awards are open to emerging writers of colour aged 18 or over. Applicants can be any age above this, but should be at an early stage in their writing career.
- b) As the Awards aim to counteract the under-representation of British writers of colour, **applications will only be accepted from people of colour**, by which we mean those who are from any of the following backgrounds: Asian or Asian British – Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Chinese, any other Asian background; Black or Black British – Caribbean, African, any other Black background; Mixed Heritage - White and Black Caribbean, White and Black African, White and Asian, any other background from more than one group; or any other background by which you identify as a person of colour.
- c) Applicants should not have previously published or had produced any substantial pieces of work. For example, poets can have had poems published in magazines, or a pamphlet published, but not a full-length collection. A playwright may have had a short piece for theatre, but not a full-length play. A fiction writer may have had individual short stories published, but not a whole collection or novel.
- d) Applicants must not have a publishing contract.
- e) Writers applying should be experienced in their area of work, but not currently taking part in structured support sessions, including other mentoring schemes and/or a relevant Masters' degree e.g., a Creative Writing MA.
- f) The writer must be a UK resident and intending to remain in the region for the year following the award.
- g) Writers should specify their primary form e.g., fiction, non-fiction, poetry, playwriting, screenwriting. You must apply to be mentored in one genre only.

3. How to enter

- a) Only online entries will be accepted using the form [here](#) no later than **31 July 2022**.
- b) Applicants will be asked to provide some information about themselves and a sample of their work e.g., three poems/1,000 words of fiction or non-fiction/up to five pages of a screenplay or play text.
- c) Applications must be submitted in accordance with these guidelines. We reserve the right to disqualify any submissions that do not fully comply.

Please also complete an equal opportunities monitoring form, the information on which will be treated in the strictest confidence and not linked to applications.