



RSL Christopher Bland Prize: Application Questions

Please note: This is not the official application form. We only accept submissions through the online portal unless otherwise agreed. This form is provided for guidance purposes only and outlines the questions you will be asked during the official application process.

Page 1: About the RSL Christopher Bland Prize

This is the application form for the **RSL Christopher Bland Prize**. The RSL Christopher Bland Prize is an annual award of £10,000 to a debut novelist or non-fiction writer first published at the age of 50 or over.

Books may be entered only by trade publishers or agents based in the UK or Republic of Ireland. Each publisher, or imprint of a publisher, may enter **two books** and up to three call-in titles. **Please fill out a separate form for each of your main entries.** Authors may not enter themselves.

Please also ensure that you have read and understood the **Eligibility Criteria** available on our website before applying: [RSL Christopher Bland Prize Eligibility](#)

You will have the option to save your application and return to it. Once the submission deadline has passed, any unsubmitted applications will be deleted. We will not accept applications received after the submission deadline published on our website.

We are processing your personal data for the purposes of the prize, and the information which you submit may be shared with the assessment panel, project partners, project funders, and with the staff at the Royal Society of Literature, where there is a legitimate reason for their receiving that information. It may also be shared with internal and external auditors and when the Royal Society of Literature is legally required to do so (by a court, government body, law enforcement agency or other authority of competent jurisdiction).

For details on our processing of personal data, see our Privacy Policy: [Privacy Policy - Royal Society of Literature](#)

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any access requirements, or if there is anything else which we can assist you with. Please email prizes@rsliterature.org with any queries.

The closing date for submissions is Friday 6 November at 5pm.

Please confirm the following:

☐ I confirm that I have read and understood the Eligibility Criteria, and that my application is eligible. *

Publisher Details

First Name *

Last Name *

Phone Number *

Email *

Job Title *

Organisation *

Only trade publishers or agents in the UK or Republic of Ireland are able to submit entries.

Social Media (if applicable)

Page 2: Author Details

First Name *

Last Name *

Email *

Country of Citizenship (- Select -) *

Country of Residence (- Select -) *

The writer must be a resident of the UK or Republic of Ireland.

Please confirm the following: *

[] The writer is a resident of the UK or Republic of Ireland.

Identification (File Upload) *

Please upload a copy of the writer's ID (for example, a valid driving licence or passport) to verify their age eligibility. These documents will be stored securely and used solely for eligibility verification purposes. Once eligibility has been confirmed through our internal review process, all copies will be destroyed. If you are unable to upload a copy of the ID now, please email prizes@rsliterature.org and we will follow up with you.

- Files must be less than 20 MB.
- Allowed file types: gif jpg jpeg png.

Headshot (File Upload) *

Please upload a high resolution photograph. We may use this photo in our publicity.

- Files must be less than 20 MB.
- Allowed file types: gif jpg jpeg png.

Professional Biography *

Please provide a professional biography (in no more than 50 words). We may use this biography in our publicity.

Social Media (if applicable)

Page 3: About the Book

Please send three copies of the book to:

Royal Society of Literature
Somerset House
London
WC2R 1LA

Please DO NOT send us more than three copies of the book. We do not have space to accommodate more.

If you have an ePub file of the book, please upload a copy here. (File Upload)

- Files must be less than 20 MB.
- Allowed file types: epub.

Name of Author *

Title of Book *

Literary Form (- Select -) *

Fiction | Non-Fiction | Poetry

Book Cover (File Upload) *

Please upload a hi-res photograph of the book cover. We may use this photo in our publicity.

- Files must be less than 20 MB.
- Allowed file types: gif jpg jpeg png.

Summary of Book *

Please provide a summary of the book (in no more than 100 words).

Publisher *

Books may be entered only by trade publishers or agents based in the UK or RoI.

Imprint

Date of Publication (- Select -) *

Month | Day | Year

The book must have been published in the calendar year immediately preceding the Prize year. For example, books submitted to the 2027 Prize must have been published in 2026.

Please confirm the following: *

☐ I confirm that this is the writer's first published book, in any format and under any name.

The writer must not have previously published, either through a trade publisher or by self-publishing, any book under any name prior to the publication of the work entered for the Prize. This includes poetry collections, short fiction collections, and academic non-fiction.

Page 4: Call Ins

Each publisher or imprint may also submit a list of up to three further fiction or non-fiction titles. These books must meet all of the criteria outlined in the eligibility criteria.

Please do not send in or upload the call-in titles unless requested. While the judges are not obliged to call in any of these titles, they are also at liberty to call in titles that have not been submitted.

Please note: If you have already listed these on another submission, there is no need to repeat them here.

Would you like to add a call in? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Depending on the above selection, the following will appear:

Call In Details 1*

Author First Name *

Author Last Name *

Title of Book *

Summary of Book *

Please provide a summary of the book and justification for why you think this title should be called in by the judges (no more than 250 words).

Would you like to add a second call in? * (You will be able to add up to 3 titles)

☐ Yes

☐ No

The Royal Society of Literature, Somerset House, Strand, London WC2R 1 LA

Tel 020 7845 4679 info@rsliterature.org www.rsliterature.org

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Page 5: Audience Monitoring

If the author has given permission for you to disclose this information, please complete the following monitoring information about them. This entirely optional, does not form part of the application process, and will be treated in strict confidence.