

T&T PEOPLE'S CHOICE BOOK of the YEAR

ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY GUIDELINES

The People's Choice **T&T Book of the Year**, devised by the Bocas Lit Fest in partnership with *Newsday* and NALIS, is a local annual award decided entirely by readers through online voting. The prize aims to raise public awareness of the growing number of books by Trinbagonian writers, and puts the spotlight on the most popular recently released reads. Through this prize, the public can debate, discuss and get excited about local books.

The Prize

The winning writer will receive \$5,000TT and a subscription to *Newsday* on-line, N Touch.

Nominations & Voting

Authors and publishers have two months in which to nominate books for the People's Choice **T&T Book of the Year** (16 December 2017 – 16 February 2018). All eligible nominated books will appear on both the Bocas Lit Fest and *Newsday* websites. Voting will only take place on the Bocas Lit Fest website.

Publishers and authors will be responsible for the promotion of their book to attract voters. Voting will take place in two stages. In Round 1 (23 Feb – 25 April 2018), the public will select the **Top 6** books from all nominated titles. In Round 2 (1 May to 1 June 2018), the public will choose among the Top 6 to decide the winner.

Rules of the Prize

Eligibility

- Books published or self-published in English between **1 January 2016 and 31 December 2017** are eligible.
- The author must be a citizen **and** resident of Trinidad and Tobago. For the purposes of this prize, "resident" means living in Trinidad and Tobago more than 9 months of the year.

- There is no restriction on book publisher's location. Books published locally and internationally are eligible.
- Authors must be alive on 31 December 2017.
- Books must have an ISBN number and be available for sale.
- Works of literary fiction of any theme or reading level (adult, children and young adult), short story collections, graphic novels, creative non-fiction and poetry **are** eligible.
- Illustrated or pictorial books are eligible once the artwork is used to support the text.
- Co-authored books are eligible on the condition that all creative contributors are citizens and residents of Trinidad and Tobago.
- Books published in e-book format are eligible.
- Manuals and textbooks are **not eligible** (i.e., non-fiction works on topics such as religion, science, biology, facts and stats, math or social studies).

How to Nominate a Book

- The author or publisher must complete the nomination form at www.bocaslitfest.com/peopleschoice by **Friday 16 February**.
- The author or publisher must also upload a high resolution image of the book cover (to be displayed on the Bocas Lit Fest and Newsday websites) and a high resolution author photo.
- All eligible nominations will be listed on the voting page on the Bocas Lit Fest website.
- The publisher and author will be responsible for sharing the voting page and encouraging votes for their nominated book once voting goes live on 23 February 2018.

How to Vote

- There are two rounds of online voting. The first round will select the Top 6 books. The second round will select the winner from the Top 6.
- Round 1 of voting to select the Top 6 will open for two months, from 23 February to 25 April 2018. Voters can vote only once, but can select up to 6 books in one vote.
- The 6 books with the most votes will be the Top 6 and go to the final round.
- Round 2 of voting will open 1 May to 1 June 2018. Voters can vote only once and can select only one book as their choice of winner.
- The book with the most votes will be announced as the People's Choice T&T Book of the Year in June 2018.

For more information, contact The Bocas Lit Fest at
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