



OVERVIEW

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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- 03** About Us
- 04** Overview
- 05** Award Categories
- 06** Why eLit Awards
- 07** Thank you & Contact

# ABOUT US

Over 35+ years of publishing experience

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Welcome to the Illumination Awards, where we shine a light on the very best in Christian publishing. Since 2013, we've been celebrating excellence across the vibrant landscape of faith-based literature. Our industry-wide, unaffiliated program is open to all Christian authors and publishers, highlighting the most inspiring works that engage readers on their spiritual journey.

Join us in celebrating the future of Christian publishing and showcase your meaningful books that guide, inspire, and uplift readers.

## MEET THE TEAM



**Jerry Jenkins**  
FOUNDER  
& CEO



**Jim Kalajian**  
PRESIDENT &  
COO



**Amy Shamroe**  
BOOK AWARDS  
DIRECTOR



**Emily Slater**  
BOOK AWARDS  
ASSISTANT



# 2025 ILLUMINATION AWARDS GUIDELINES

## WHO MAY ENTER

Authors, illustrators, publishers, and self-publishers of Christian books written in English may enter.

## ELIGIBILITY

Books published with a copyright date between **2023-2025** are eligible. Any book published since 2000 is eligible for Enduring Light categories.

While the contest is for published books, an ISBN is not required. Galley copies may be submitted if finished copies are not yet available. eBooks are eligible in our Digital Media category and can also be entered in regular subject categories, where they will be judged alongside print books.

## HOW TO ENTER

There are two ways to enter the awards:

1. **Online:** Enter and pay by credit card at [illuminationawards.com/enter](https://illuminationawards.com/enter).
2. **By Mail:** Print and fill out the entry form, then send it with your payment by check.

## SUBMISSION & FEES

You may submit a title in multiple categories, but an entry fee is required for each category entered. Please send one copy of the title for each category. Mail submissions to:

### **Illumination Awards**

Jenkins Group  
1129 Woodmere Ave - Suite B  
Traverse City, MI 49686

### **Entry Deadlines:**

- **Early-Bird Deadline 1: July 5, 2024 - \$79 per entry**
- **Early-Bird Deadline 2: September 30, 2024 - \$89 per entry**
- **Final Deadline: January 8, 2025 - \$99 per entry**

Once you submit your entry, we'll confirm it via email and keep you updated with judging progress and results announcements. So, be sure to provide a valid email address and add [info@illuminationawards.com](mailto:info@illuminationawards.com) to your contacts.



# 2025 ILLUMINATION AWARDS GUIDELINES

## WHAT TO SEND

Include your online registration receipt or completed entry form and check (in U.S. funds) with your books, unless they are shipped directly from a distributor.

### Submission Requirements:

- Submit one copy of the title per category entered
- **eBook** files (PDF only please) can be uploaded after entry or sent as a gift from your distributor to [info@illuminationawards.com](mailto:info@illuminationawards.com) with your order number in the subject line.
- Audiobooks must be entered as a gift from your platform of choice (please do not send files). Entries and gifts can be sent to [info@illuminationawards.com](mailto:info@illuminationawards.com) with your order number in the subject line.

All books submitted become the property of Jenkins Group and will eventually be donated to local libraries or charities. eBook files will be deleted after judging and announcement of results. Judges will only see the book itself, so please don't send any press kits, reviews, bookmarks, etc.

## DEADLINE

All entries must be submitted online or postmarked by the final entry deadline of **January 8, 2025**. A ten-day grace period allows books to arrive at our office by **January 22, 2025**, which is the start of judging.

## JUDGING PROCESS

Judging will be based on content, design, and production quality, with emphasis on innovation and creative ways of expressing a Christian worldview. Our judging panel includes experts from the fields of education, clergy, bookselling, etc. Three to five medalists per category will be announced around **February 20, 2025**.

## AWARDS & PRESENTATION

Gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded in each category. Each winning book receives a medal, a personalized certificate, and 20 sample seals. Additional award seals are available for medalists in rolls of 250 and 1,000. High-resolution versions of the medalist artwork are also available for purchase for book covers and promotional materials.

## AWARD CEREMONY

All medalists are invited to join the awards ceremony that will be held virtually on **March 13, 2025**.



# AWARD CATEGORIES

## GENERAL CATEGORIES

1. Bible Study
2. Christian Living
3. Devotional
4. Theology
5. Ministry/Mission
6. Catholic
7. Family/Parenting
8. Education
9. Spirituality
10. Illness/Death/Dying
11. Self-Help
12. Biography/Memoir- Inspiration
13. Biography/Memoir- Personal Struggle
14. Holiday
15. Children's Picture Book
16. Juvenile/Young Adult Fiction
17. General Fiction
18. Romance Fiction
19. Mystery/Thriller
20. Keepsake/Gift/Specialty Bible
21. Poetry
22. Digital Media (eBook, Audiobook)

## ENDURING LIGHT CATEGORIES

- L1. Christian Thought
- L2. Devotional
- L3. Inspirational
- L4. Christian Fiction
- L5. Christian Children's Book



# WHY CHOOSE US



Maximize ROI with entry fees at wholesale rates



Dedicated Account Representative



Seamless Entry Process



"I owned a business for thirty-five years and sold it six years ago. I have to say, when I started communicating with Jenkins Group, it seemed like the first time in six years that I was receiving the kind of service my staff and I have to our clients across the country. Good service and good communication are so rare!"

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**Anna Desimone, Award-Winning Author**



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# THANK YOU

Shining a Light on Exemplary Christian Books Since 2013

1129 Woodmere Ave. Suite B,  
Traverse City, MI 49686

(231) 933-0445 x1000

[www.illuminationawards.com](http://www.illuminationawards.com)

