



Branford Boase Award 2022: submissions open and judges announced

Submissions are now open for the **Branford Boase Award 2022**. Publishers are invited to make their submissions by the closing date, midnight Friday 26th November 2021.

The **Branford Boase Award** was set up in the memory of award-winning author Henrietta Branford and her editor Wendy Boase. It rewards the most promising new authors and their editors, highlighting excellence in writing and publishing for children. The Award is made annually to the most promising book for children of seven and upward by a first-time novelist and celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2019.

The author may have published other books in another genre - for example, poetry or a picture book - but eligibility for the prize requires that this is their first novel for children. Publishers are required to check that all books submitted are first novels for children and should confirm that with the authors prior to submission.

Previous winners of the prize include Frances Hardinge and her editor Ruth Alltimes for **Fly By Night**, Muhammad Khan and editor Lucy Pearse for **I Am Thunder** and Liz Hyder and editor Sarah Odedina for **Bearmouth**. The 2021 award was won by Struan Murray and his editor Ben Horslen for **Orphans of the Tide**.

2022 Judges

As 2021 winner, **Struan Murray** becomes a judge for the 2022 award. He is joined on the judging panel by critic **Imogen Russell Williams**; **Farrah Serroukh**, Research and Development Director **CLPE**; and **Sonia Thompson**, Head Teacher at St Matthew's C.E. Primary School, Birmingham. The judging panel will be chaired by **Julia Eccleshare**, children's director of the Hay Festival. The winner will be announced in July 2022.

Eligible titles must be published between 1 January and 31 December 2021. The authors should live and work in the UK.

The **Branford Boase Award** is sponsored by Walker Books.

The submission form and full criteria can be found at
<https://branfordboaseaward.org.uk/>

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