The 23rd Thurber Prize for American Humor
Entry Rules | Terms and Conditions

Submission Deadline: May 31, 2023

The following submissions are eligible:
• For The 23rd Thurber Prize for American Humor, Thurber House will accept original hardcover books, paperback books, and ebooks first published between January 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022.
• Books must be humorous in nature.
• Fiction, nonfiction, and collections of short stories are eligible.
• Graphic novels are acceptable as long as they contain a significant amount of written text and the humor is primarily grounded in the written text.
• Collaborations by writing teams are acceptable.
• Self-published books are eligible.
• Printed book adaptations of authors’ video specials (such as stand-up specials) are eligible, provided that the book adaptation focuses on and contains the original work of the author(s).

The following submissions are NOT eligible:
• Books published outside of the time frame listed above are not eligible.
• Reprints/second editions of books that were first published outside the time frame are not eligible.
• Books that are not humorous in nature are not eligible.
• Books solely published outside of the United States are ineligible.
• Books primarily written in a language other than English are ineligible.
• Picture books and graphic novels that contain minimal text are ineligible.
• Children’s books are not eligible.

Thurber House will make the final decision regarding all questions of eligibility. If you are not sure whether your work is eligible, contact us at thurberprize@thurberhouse.org.

What do I need to submit for consideration?
1) The online entry form, including a PDF version of your book (to be used solely for judging purposes; PDFs may be watermarked). If you represent multiple authors, please submit one entry form per book.

2) $75 submission fee — if you are using a credit card, you will be asked for payment on the online entry form. If you are mailing a check, complete the online entry form, then mail your check to Thurber House at the address below. Submission fees are non-refundable.

3) Mail five printed copies of the book to:
Thurber House
Attn: Thurber Prize
77 Jefferson Avenue
Columbus, OH 43215

If you represent multiple authors, you may enclose multiple submissions in the same box. If you are paying by check, please enclose your check with your books whenever possible.
Terms and conditions:
By submitting a book for consideration, the author(s) and/or author(s)’ representative(s) agree to the following terms and conditions of The Thurber Prize for American Humor:

- Authors whose books are selected as finalists will attend the awards ceremony in Columbus, Ohio to participate in the ceremony and read from the nominated book. If the book is a collaboration by a writing team, at least one author must attend the event.
- The author(s) or representative of the author(s) agrees to pay for the author(s)’ transportation to and from Columbus and expenses while there.
- Author(s) and author(s)’ representative(s) forever release Thurber House, its employees, its chosen panel of judges, and other Thurber House authorized representatives from any claim or liability that may arise out of the selection, judging, and awards process for The Thurber Prize.
- Applicants agree that the decisions of Thurber House and its chosen judges are final regarding all matters, including eligibility, timeliness of the submission, and compliance with the rules of The Thurber Prize.
- Author(s) must be available for media interviews.
- Thurber House has the permanent right in any form of media worldwide to use all online, radio, television, merchandising, promotional, and publicity rights that publisher and author may have in connection with their participation in the competition for The Thurber Prize for American Humor. Both publisher and author release any claim they have by virtue of their participation in the Thurber Prize competition, for use of their photographs, names, likenesses, voice, or appearances in connection with The Thurber Prize, and each consents to the permanent right to tape and/or broadcast the author’s acceptance speech without further consent or payment.

Should you have any questions, please contact us at thurberprize@thurberhouse.org.