



2027 Silva Award

PICTURE BOOK COMPETITION

Submission Deadline: June 14, 2027



SILVA AWARD

Terms and Conditions

A. Purpose of the Competition

The **Silva Award** is organized to encourage the creation of contemporary and original works in children's literature. The second edition of the award will be presented in the category of **unpublished picture books within the field of children's literature**. This international competition seeks to inspire authors and illustrators to produce high-quality picture books and contribute to the development of the genre. The competition is organized and promoted by **Silva Literary Agency (a brand of Tudem Publishing Group)**.

B. Eligibility

1. Who Can Apply

The competition is open to all writers/illustrators worldwide who are 18 years or older, regardless of nationality or educational background.

2. Who Cannot Apply

Employees of Tudem Publishing Group, members of the jury, and their first-degree relatives are not eligible to participate.

3. Number of Entries

Each participant may submit up to three entries.

4. Entry Fee

There is no entry fee. However, participants are responsible for any costs incurred during preparation and submission.

5. Acceptance of the Terms

By submitting an entry, participants are deemed to have read, understood, and accepted these terms and conditions. Any submission not compatible with these terms and conditions will be disqualified.

C. Entry Requirements

1. Language

All submissions must be written in English.

2. Category and Age Group

The competition is open to picture books intended for children aged 3–6.

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3. Type of Picture Book

Submissions may be:

- wordless picture books or picture books accompanied by text
- fiction or non-fiction

Pop-up books are not eligible for submission.

4. Publication, Representation and Previous Submission Status

Entries must be unpublished and must not have been previously published, in full or in part, in any format. Entries must not be under contract with another publisher.

Entries must not be represented by a literary agency or subject to any representation agreement.

Works that have previously been submitted to Silva Literary Agency or Tudem Publishing Group, whether for publication consideration, representation, or any other evaluation process, are not eligible for submission.

5. Previous Awards

Entries must not have previously won a literary prize.

D. Originality, Content and AI

1. Originality

The submitted work must be original and must not replicate, copy, or otherwise reproduce any existing work.

2. Plagiarism and Non-Original Works

Plagiarized or otherwise non-original submissions will be disqualified.

The author/illustrator shall bear full legal responsibility for any claims made by third parties concerning the originality or ownership of the submitted work.

3. Content

Entries must not contain sexist, racist, or otherwise discriminatory content; or hate speech.

4. Artificial Intelligence

Entries must not be created, in whole or in part, through the use of artificial intelligence technologies.

This prohibition applies to AI-generated creative elements incorporated into the submitted work, including text, illustrations, images, or other artistic content.

5. Discovery of Non-Originality After an Award

If a submitted work is determined to be non-original after receiving an award, the author/illustrator agrees to return the prize amount with an additional 25% penalty, as stated in the Letter of Commitment included in this document. The author/illustrator shall bear full legal responsibility for any claims made by third parties.

6. Discovery of Non-Originality After Publication

If a non-winning work is subsequently published and is later found to be unoriginal, the author/illustrator must compensate Tudem Publishing Group for any damages incurred.

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E. Format Guidelines

Submitted works must adhere to the following format requirements:

1. Picture books must have a minimum of 16 interior pages, excluding the cover.
2. There is no restriction on book dimensions.
3. All illustrations for inner pages and cover must be fully completed. Unfinished illustrations or sketches will not be accepted.
4. Illustrators may apply with their own stories or collaborate with writers.
5. Illustrators may use any artistic technique of their choice.

F. Submission of the Entries

1. All entries must be submitted electronically to the following email address:

competition@tudem.com

2. The email must be sent with these attachments:

- a- The PDF of the work
- b- Identity Form and Letter of Commitment, which must be signed and completed.
- c- Short biography of the illustrator/author

3. The PDF must be a single file not larger than 10 MB.

4. For text-based picture books, the PDF must contain the complete text of the work.

5. The PDF file name must include the participant's nickname and the title of the work, as shown in the following example: **ABCDE-TitleoftheWork.pdf**

The nickname must consist of exactly five (5) characters and must not contain or resemble the participant's first name, last name, initials, pseudonym, or any other information that could reveal the participant's identity. The nickname should not form a meaningful word or name.

The participant's real name or any other identifying information must not appear anywhere in the PDF file, including on the cover, interior pages, credits, copyright information, file name, or any other part of the submitted work.

Submissions that do not comply with the nickname and anonymity requirements will be automatically disqualified.

6. Physical copies and original illustrations must not be sent. Any such materials received by parcel will not be returned.

7. In the case of multiple contributors, each artist must individually complete and sign the Identity Form and Letter of Commitment.

8. Entries must be submitted by **17:00 (CET) on June 14, 2027.**

G. Evaluation Criteria

1. All submitted works will first be reviewed by a preliminary selection committee to ensure compliance with the rules outlined in this specification. Shortlisted titles will be submitted to the jury.

2. Each eligible work will be evaluated by the jury members and scored out of 100 points. The jury will convene in August 2027 to finalize the evaluation. In the event of a tie, the tied works will be reevaluated to determine the final ranking.

3. Should the Selection Committee determine that no work merits an award, no prizes shall be conferred.

4. The evaluation process shall be completed no later than **September 30, 2027.**

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H. Announcement of Results and Awards

1. Winners will be officially announced in September 2027.
2. Awards will be granted to the submitted work itself. In the case of multiple creators, the monetary prize shall be divided equally among them.
3. 2027 Silva Award includes the following monetary prize: **2,000 Euros**
4. The jury panel will consist of selected experts in alphabetical order:

Barroux

Rob Hodgson

Zeynep Özatalay

I. Publication and Representation of Works

1. Tudem Publishing Group will hold the publication rights to all submitted works for a period of one (1) year after the submission deadline. During this period, authors/illustrators wishing to publish their work elsewhere may request a written release from Tudem Publishing Group.
2. The representation rights of the award-winning work will be transferred to Silva Literary Agency for two (2) years. A representation agreement outlining the mutual rights and responsibilities of the author/illustrator and the literary agency will be signed.
3. The publication rights of the award-winning work will be transferred to Tudem Publishing Group for five (5) years. If the work is selected for publication, a copyright agreement outlining the mutual rights and responsibilities of the author/illustrator and the publisher will be signed.
4. Silva Literary Agency may use the award-winning work, including its title, cover, illustrations, and excerpts, for the promotion of the Silva Award, Silva Literary Agency, and the award-winning work itself, in print and digital promotional materials, including catalogues, websites, social media, newsletters, presentations, and fair or event materials.
5. Tudem Publishing Group is not obligated to publish the awarded work. However, it may choose to publish other submissions as well. In such cases, publication arrangements will be made directly between the author/illustrator and the publisher. The selection committee is not involved in publication decisions, which are made independently by the publisher.

J. Contact Details

For any inquiries regarding the competition or the submission process, please contact us via email at: **competition@tudem.com**