

EDWIN MORGAN POETRY AWARD INFORMATION SHEET

The Edwin Morgan Trust was established in 2012 to carry forward the wishes of the Scottish poet laureate, [Edwin Morgan](#) (1920–2010). In particular, he wanted to found a new award for young Scottish poets.

Throughout his life, Morgan worked to encourage and support young people and their writing. He did this as a university teacher and through his many visits to schools to give readings from his work. His poetry was and remains widely taught. A prolific poet and translator, he was in his forties before making his first real breakthrough, and often remembered the problems young poets can have in getting a first collection published. So when he came to gift his estate to the nation and good causes, he stipulated that there should be a new prize in his name awarded regularly for a collection of poems by a Scottish poet under the age of thirty.

The Edwin Morgan Poetry Award is made biennially. The sum of £20,000 will be awarded for the best unpublished collection of poems by a Scottish poet aged 30 or under. The runner-up will receive £2,500 and other shortlisted poets £1,000.

Judges of the 2020 Edwin Morgan Poetry Award for young Scottish poets will be the distinguished poets Kathleen Jamie and John Glenday.

The closing date for entries is Monday 2 March 2020 at 5 p.m.

The winner of the Edwin Morgan Poetry Award will be expected to provide some follow-up account of the impact of its funding and publicity on their creative life over the two years between Awards. This will be used on the Edwin Morgan Trust website in advance of the next call for collections.

ELIGIBILITY

The unpublished collection should have a minimum of 25 and a maximum of 50 poems. If individual poems have previously been published in journals/online, this should be noted. Of poems submitted, no more than 10% should be previously published.

An unpublished collection submitted unsuccessfully for the Award in a previous year is not eligible for resubmission.

The collection may include poems written in English, Scots or Gaelic. For Gaelic poetry, an English version should be attached.

The Award is open to poets

- + born in Scotland, or
- + continuously resident in Scotland for the last three years, or
- + brought up in Scotland, or
- + having a Scottish parent.

Poets will be expected to declare under which of these categories they are entering their collection.

Poets should be no older than 30 years of age on the first day of January in the year of the Award, i.e. 1 January 2020 for the 2020 Award. A date of birth will be requested.

SUBMITTING AN ENTRY

Three copies (hard copy, not electronic) of an unpublished collection should be submitted. Entries should be:

- + typed (not handwritten or photocopied print)
- + on numbered pages (may be double-sided)
- + each copy gathered in some way e.g. large paper clip, paper folder, pages attached along the spine
- + accompanied by one detachable entry form.

Poems previously published online or in magazines should be acknowledged and not account to more than 10% of your collection.

As entries are judged anonymously, your name should not appear anywhere in the typescript. We suggest that you omit any dedication or acknowledgement naming individuals. Your name must only appear on the detachable entry form.

Entries should be sent to:

Edwin Morgan Poetry Award
Scottish Poetry Library
5 Crichton's Close, Canongate
EDINBURGH
EH8 8DT

Please ensure that you also include:

- + an email address or a stamped self-addressed envelope for notification of receipt;
- + contact details for any subsequent notification of success in reaching the shortlist;
- + the completed Entry Form, downloadable [here](#)

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