PEN Heaney Prize
Submission criteria and eligibility

- The prize is open to single collections only, including collections in pamphlet form.
- The prize is open to collections published in the UK or Ireland, including the British Isles, between 1 January and 31 December 2023.
- The prize is open to poets who have published any number of previous works (i.e., it could be their first or their tenth collection).
- The prize is open to original English-language publications and those translated into English (from any language).
- The poet – and translator(s), where applicable – can be of any nationality and based anywhere in the world.
- The prize is open to publisher submissions and call-ins from the judges only. Entries from individual poets of their own work will not be accepted. This includes self-published collections.
- Only collections authored by a single living poet will be considered (and living translators, where applicable).
- Anthologies and collections authored by more than one poet will not be considered. Collections by a single poet but translated by multiple translators are eligible.
- New collections comprising poems previously published in separate collections will be considered.
- The prize money for the poet will be £5,000. If the winning book is translated from another language, £5,000 will also be awarded to the translator(s).
- The prize is open to first UK/Ireland editions only (i.e., it must be the first time the collection has been published in the UK/Ireland). If it has been previously published in another country – including in a different language – but this is the first UK or Ireland edition, it will still be eligible.
- The prize is only open to collections aimed at adult readers; poetry marketed to children and young adults will not be considered.
- Only original translations published in 2023 will be considered, irrespective of when the original language edition was written or published. I.e., new translations of collections previously published in English translation and published in the UK/Ireland will not be eligible.
- The judges have discretion as to how they individually and jointly assess the submitted collections against the prize's focus on 'socially engaged poetry' and their decision is final.

If you have any questions regarding the prize or the submissions process, please get in touch via events@englishpen.org.