

# ILLUMINATION BOOK AWARDS

## “Shining a Light on Exemplary Christian Books”



### 2015 Guidelines & Entry Form

#### Awards Overview

With more and more people searching for inspiration and answers to life’s tough questions, books dedicated to Christian belief and spiritual development are a fast-growing segment of publishing and bookselling today. Books have always been powerful tools for helping us understand Scripture and explore various aspects of faith in a complicated world.

How does one choose the “winners” from the huge array of new titles released each year? The [Illumination Book Awards](#) are designed to “shine a light” on the best of these new titles written and published with a Christian worldview.

Illumination Award categories range from Bible Study and Devotional to family-oriented subjects like Education and Children’s Picture Book. The purpose of the Illumination Book Awards is to bring award recipients the credibility and publicity they need to further their book marketing and sales success.

The 2015 Illumination Awards are open to all Christian-themed books written in English with copyrights 2013-2015, or that were released since November 1, 2012. The contest is for published books only, as our judging criteria include cover design, layout, etc. Books from all methods of publishing are welcome, and authors of royalty-published books are welcome to enter their books themselves. Entry fees start at \$75 per category and go up to \$85 and then \$95 as the final deadline approaches, with the early-bird discounts along the way to encourage early entry.

#### Enduring Light Medals

As most book award contests recognize only titles released during the previous calendar year or two, we’ve created the Enduring Light medals to reward exemplary Christian-themed books published since the year 2000. The Enduring Light medals are presented to books with enduring messages in five categories: Christian Thought; Devotional; Inspirational; Christian Fiction; and Christian Children’s Book. Entry fees are the same as in regular categories, and two judging copies are requested.

## Choosing Illumination Award Categories

Categories for the Illumination Book Awards and the Enduring Light Medals are listed below. Remember that books released prior to November 1, 2012 are eligible in the Enduring Light division only, and note that the regular categories are numbered 1 through 18 and the Enduring Light categories are designated EF1 through EF5. In all cases, each category entered requires a separate fee and sending in two copies of the book for judging (or just one electronic copy in the ebook categories). Keep in mind that we often move a book from one category to another during judging when the judges determine it will score better that way. We want each book to do its best!

### 2015 Illumination Book Awards Categories

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Bible Study                                | 10. Biography/Memoir              |
| 2. Christian Living                           | 11. Holiday                       |
| 3. Devotional                                 | 12. Children's Picture Book       |
| 4. Theology                                   | 13. Juvenile/Young Adult Fiction  |
| 5. Ministry/Mission                           | 14. General Fiction               |
| 6. Catholic                                   | 15. Romance Fiction               |
| 7. Education (Home School, Bible School, etc) | 16. Keepsake/Gift/Specialty Bible |
| 8. Spirituality                               | 17. Ebook Non-Fiction             |
| 9. Self-Help/Recovery                         | 18. Ebook - Fiction               |

### 2015 Enduring Light Medal Categories

- EL1. Christian Thought
- EL2. Devotional
- EL3. Inspirational
- EL4. Christian Fiction
- EL5. Christian Children's Book

### How to Enter

Entry into the Illumination Book Awards is fast and convenient, either through our online entry site or by printable entry form. Online entry requires using a credit card and printing out entry coupon and mailing labels; use the printable mail-in entry form below to pay by check or money order in U.S. funds. PayPal payment is available by request.

Visit the online entry site at <http://www.IlluminationAwards.com>.

### Who can enter?

Authors and publishers around the world who publish English-language books appropriate for the North American market may enter. Books with 2013-2015 copyright, or that are released between November 1, 2012 and November 15, 2014 are eligible.

**What does it cost?**

Entry fee is \$75 per title, per category, until the first early-bird deadline of May 17, 2014. Fee is \$85 until the second early-bird deadline of August 16, 2014. Regular entry fee of \$95 runs until the final entry deadline of November 15, 2014. Enter one book in one category for a single entry fee; enter one book in two categories, pay two entry fees. (Sorry, no discounts for multiple title or multiple category entries.)

**What do the winners receive?**

Gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded in each category. Each medal-winning book receives a packet including the medal, a certificate, 20 foil award seals, and awards marketing material. The award is designed as a marketing tool, so we hope the most valuable aspect of the award is in its promotional value and as a book sales stimulator.

**What do I send in my entry package?**

Please send two copies for each category entered. When entering a title in two categories, send four copies; entering three categories, send six copies, etc. Please include your online registration receipt or a completed entry form and check/money order in the same package as the books, preferably tucked inside the front cover. You need not send any marketing kits, reviews or any other supporting material, as our judges are not allowed to see anything but the book itself.

**Submitting an Ebook**

Ebooks must be submitted for judging in the two ebook categories, and may also be submitted in our regular subject categories if that is the only form the book is available in. Submit ebooks as an email attachment in any commonly used format. Please send in just one format and the file name should include the book title. Please send all electronic submissions to [awards@bookpublishing.com](mailto:awards@bookpublishing.com) with "Illumination E-Book Entry" in the subject line. In the case of multiple category entries it is only necessary to send one copy of the ebook file.

**Judging Process**

Judging will be based on content, design, and production quality, with emphasis on innovation and creative ways of expressing a Christian worldview. Our judging panel includes experts from the fields of education, clergy, book production and bookselling. Three to five medalists per category will be named on about January 15th, 2015.

**Contest Deadline**

All entries must be posted online or postmarked by November 15, 2014.

**Contest Entry Confirmation and Updates**

We will confirm your entry via email and send judging updates and results announcements by email as well, so submission of a valid email address is mandatory. Please inform us of any email address changes or additional contacts you'd like added to our contest update list.

Questions? Contact Jim Barnes, Awards Director - 1.800.706.4636 x1011 - [jimb@bookpublishing.com](mailto:jimb@bookpublishing.com)

# ILLUMINATION BOOK AWARDS 2015 - ENTRY FORM

Please include this form with your entry, preferably folded and inserted inside the front cover.

(Note: This form is for check payments only - online entry site available at [www.IlluminationAwards.com](http://www.IlluminationAwards.com) )

## TITLE INFO:

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Title

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Author

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Publisher Name (as you'd like it to appear in results listing and publicity)

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Category(s) Entered (You may list multiple categories, but don't forget to pay the fee and send two books for each category entered)

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**PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUBMIT TWO COPIES OF THE BOOK FOR EACH CATEGORY ENTERED!**

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Contest open date until May 17, 2014 \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 75 = \_\_\_\_\_ (These are postmark deadlines.)  
May 18, 2014 until August 16, 2014 \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 85 = \_\_\_\_\_  
August 17, 2014 until Nov. 15, 2014 \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 95 = \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

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Contact Person

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Email Address

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Company / Publisher (for mailing purposes)

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Mailing Address

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City, State, Postal Code, Country

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Telephone

Ship books with entry fee(s) and entry form(s) to:

Please enclose check or money order in U.S. funds  
payable to *Jenkins Group*

**Illumination Awards 2015  
Jenkins Group  
1129 Woodmere Ave – Suite B  
Traverse City, MI 49686**

To pay with a credit card, please enter online at:  
<https://secure.independentpublisher.com/secure/illumination/entry.php>