



SINGAPORE BOOK PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SINGAPORE BOOK AWARDS 2020 PRESS RELEASE

Finalists announced; Winners and Book of the Year to be unveiled at virtual Awards Ceremony on 13 August

Singapore, July 3, 2020 – The Singapore Book Publishers Association (www.singaporebookpublishers.sg) (SBPA), representing local and international publishing companies based in Singapore, officially announced the finalists for the 2020 Singapore Book Awards in the following categories.

- i) Best Book Cover Design
- ii) Best Education Title
- iii) Best Illustrated Non-Fiction Title
- iv) Best Literary Work
- v) Best Middle Grade / Young Adult Title
- vi) Best Non-Fiction Title
- vii) Best Picture Book

Thirty-eight of the best fiction and non-fiction titles by local and international publishing firms in Singapore were shortlisted. These 38 titles cover multiple genres including architecture history, autobiography and biography, creative non-fiction, manga, graphic novels, Singapore history, local community history, local heritage cuisine, textbooks and supplementary educational titles.

The winners of the above award categories, as well as the new award categories of Best Audiobook Title, Best Digital Marketing Campaign and Best E-Book Title and the 2020 Book of the Year will be announced during the virtual Singapore Book Awards ceremony which will be held on the afternoon of Thursday 13 August. The virtual Awards Ceremony is sponsored by Amazon, Markono Print Media and Storytel.

The finalists for the award categories are listed in [Appendix A](#). More information on the number of award categories can be found in [Appendix B](#). There is no shortlist for the Book of the Year category, which will be judged after the other prizes are decided. In addition, there are no shortlists for the new award categories for Best Audiobook Title, Best Digital Marketing Campaign and Best E-Book Title.



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Upon the announcement of the shortlist, Peter Schoppert, President of the Singapore Book Publishers Association, remarked, “The Singapore Book Publishers Association represents local and multinational (and locally-born multinational) publishers, from some of the world’s largest publishing companies to SMEs with one or two staff. Across the board, we see Singapore-produced books continuing to improve, in many different fields and genres of publishing. We are particularly pleased to run these Book Prizes during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. The pandemic has both reinforced the importance of reading, as the best way to spend time alone but in communion with others, but at the same time has been a blow to Singapore’s essential books ecosystem. The Prizes are a way of recognising excellent work of our authors, illustrators, designers and photographers, but also the good work of our publishers who bring all the pieces together, nurturing, packaging and promoting these books.”

The Singapore Book Awards is an industry award for books published in Singapore. Into its sixth edition, the awards shine the spotlight on the quality of published works and celebrate the achievements of the local publishing industry.

Winners will receive a plaque and a certificate of recognition. Winning titles will be able to use the Singapore Book Awards logos on their covers and be given a special place of honour at SBPA’s booths in international trade fairs such as Frankfurt Book Fair which welcomed over 300,000 visitors in 2019.

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About Singapore Book Publishers Association

Established in 1968, the Singapore Book Publishers Association represents the interests of Singapore publishers engaged in a wide range of publishing, marketing and distribution activities in both print and digital formats. It focuses on developing and strengthening the book ecosystem in Singapore. All members are publishing related companies based in Singapore, including foreign companies that have their Asian headquarters here. SBPA member companies contribute some S\$1.7 billion each year to the Singapore economy.

For more information please visit: www.singaporebookpublishers.sg

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Frequently Asked Questions

1) What are the Singapore Book Awards?

The Singapore Book Awards is organised by the SBPA to recognise the best in Singapore book publishing. The awards are given to publishers for their best books, and are open to all book publishing companies with operations in Singapore. Books considered for the Book Awards must:

- i) Be published in either one of the four official languages of Singapore;
- ii) Have a Singapore ISBN number, and hard copies must be legally deposited with the National Library Board;
- iii) Books that are sold in print must be sold in retail stores locally and/or overseas;
- iv) For the 2020 book awards, books had to be published in Singapore between 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019.

Translated works (from a foreign language to a Singapore official language) are also acceptable, provided that they meet the above criteria.

APPENDIX A

Finalists for the Singapore Book Awards 2020

Please note that this list is merely arranged in alphabetical order according to publishers' names.

1. Best Book Cover Design

S/n	Title	Publisher	Designer(s)
a.	The Brook's Clown – A Hit & Miss Adventure of Gramblanc & Hatoff	Achates 360	Koh Hong Teng
b.	Impractical Uses of Cake	Epigram Books	Lim Qin Yi
c.	The Angel Tiger and Other Stories	Epigram Books	Liak Yuan Ying
d.	Fall Baby	Penguin Random House SEA	Saurabh Garge
e.	The Best of Junji Ito: Short Story Collection	Shogakukan Asia	Junji Ito
f.	Singapore 1819: A Living Legacy	Talisman Publishing	Norreha Sayuti

2. Best Education Title

S/n	Title	Publisher	Author(s)
a.	GP Power, New Edition - `A' Level General Paper	Armour Publishing	Robert Wilks
b.	My Pals are Here! Science Upsized Home Edition 3&4	Marshall Cavendish Education	Dr Kwa Siew Hwa, Teo-Gwan Wai Lan, Koh Siew Luan and Chee Chin Young
c.	Discover Forensics 2: More Ways to Use Science for Investigations	Marshall Cavendish International (Asia)	The Forensic Experts Group (TFEG)
d.	玩物志 - 新加坡学前华文教具日常生活材料篇	Singapore Centre for Chinese Language (NTU-SCCL Press)	Dr Cheng Wan-ni
e.	How to Build a Dragon or Die Trying: A Satirical Look at Cutting-Edge Science	World Scientific Publishing Co	Paul Knoepfler and Julie Knoepfler

f.	Theory and Problems for Chemistry Olympiad: Challenging Concepts in Chemistry	World Scientific Publishing Co	Zhihan Nan and Sheng Zhang
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3. Best Illustrated Non-Fiction Title

S/n	Title	Publisher	Author(s)
a.	The Antibiotic Tales	Epigram Books	Sonny Liew and Hsu Li Yang
b.	The Way of Kueh: Savouring and Saving Singapore's Heritage Desserts	Epigram Books	Christopher Tan
c.	Seven Hundred Years: A History of Singapore	Marshall Cavendish International (Asia) and National Library Board (NLB)	Kwa Chong Guan, Derek Heng, Peter Borschberg and Tan Tai Yong
d.	Bawa Staircases	Talisman Publishing	David Robson

4. Best Literary Work

S/n	Title	Publisher	Author(s)
a.	Harris Bin Potter and the Stoned Philosopher	Epigram Books	Suffian Hakim
b.	Impractical Uses of Cake	Epigram Books	Yeoh Jo-Ann
c.	The Evolved Ones (Book 1): Awakening	Marshall Cavendish International (Asia)	Natasha Oliver
d.	Fall Baby	Penguin Random House SEA	Laksmi Pamuntjak

5. Best Middle Grade/Young Adult Title

S/n	Title	Publisher	Author(s)
a.	Luminous Sword - Book 3, Keys of Archellos	Armour Publishing	Eunice Li-Tan
b.	Make Animals Great Again and Other Creature Campaigns	Epigram Books	Maureen Yeo
c.	Awesome Art Singapore: 10 Works from the Lion City Everyone Should Know	National Gallery Singapore	Ryan How
d.	Queen of the Sky	Penguin Random House SEA	Josephine Chia

e.	WildKat	Scholastic Asia	Vittoria D'Alessio
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6. Best Non-Fiction Title

S/n	Title	Publisher	Author(s)
a.	Homeless: The Untold Story of a Mother's Struggle in Crazy Rich Singapore	Epigram Books	Liyana Dhamirah
b.	The First Wave: JBJ, Chiam & the Opposition in Singapore	Epigram Books	Loke Hoe Yeong
c.	优影振天声 : 牛车水百年文化历程 (<i>Youying Zhentiansheng: A Century of Singapore's Chinatown in Cultural and Historical Memory</i>)	Global Publishing	Dr Wong Chee Meng
d.	Reluctant Editor - The Singapore Media as Seen Through the Eyes of a Veteran Newspaper Journalist	Marshall Cavendish International (Asia)	PN Balji
e.	Hard at Work: Life in Singapore	NUS Press	Gerard Sasges and Ng Shi Wen
f.	Imperial Creatures: Humans and Other Animals in Colonial Singapore, 1819–1942	NUS Press	Timothy P. Barnard
g.	A Place for Us	Pagesetters Services	Cassandra Chiu

7. Best Picture Book

S/n	Title	Publisher	Author(s)
a.	Friends: A Counting Book	Landmark Books	Goh Eck Kheng and Mike Foo
b.	Counting Sheep	Marshall Cavendish International (Asia)	Pippa Chorley (Author) and Danny Deeptown (Illustrator)
c.	Apa Nama Kueh Ini	Pustaka Nasional	Maria Humairah Bte Roslan and Siti Salmah Bte Hamid



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d.	Dreams Are Calling	Scholastic Asia	Trang Hoang & Pham Quang Phuc
e.	Jun and the Octopus	Singapore Children's Society	Goh Eck Kheng
f.	Panjang: The Tall Boy who became the Prime Minister	World Scientific Publishing Co	Peh Shing Huei



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APPENDIX B

Award Categories

There are 11 award categories for the 2020 Awards:

1. Best Audiobook Title
2. Best Book Cover Design
3. Best Digital Marketing Campaign
4. Best E-Book Title
5. Best Education Title
6. Best Illustrated Non-Fiction Title
7. Best Literary Work
8. Best Middle Grade/Young Adult Title
9. Best Non-Fiction Title
10. Best Picture Book
11. Book of the Year

There is no shortlist for the Book of the Year category, which will be judged after the other prizes are decided. There are also no shortlists for the Best Audiobook Title, Best Digital Marketing Campaign and Best E-Book Title.