Press Release

German Book Prize 2020: The jury has been selected

Seven jury members nominated / Publishers may submit titles until 23 March 2020 / Call for submissions www.deutscher-buchpreis.de/anmeldung

The jury for the German Book Prize 2020 has been chosen. The Akademie Deutscher Buchpreis (German Book Prize Academy) has appointed the following seven literature experts to the jury:

- Katharina Borchardt (literature editor, SWR2)
- Hanna Engelmeier (research assistant, Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut Essen (Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities) and author)
- David Hugendick (literature editor, ZEIT ONLINE)
- Chris Möller (propagator of literature at Kabeljau & Dorsch, Berlin)
- Maria-Christina Piwowarski (“ocelot” bookstore, Berlin)
- Felix Stephan (literature editor, Süddeutsche Zeitung)
- Denise Zumbrunnen (“Never Stop Reading” bookstore, Zurich)

The members of the jury decide who receives the German Book Prize 2020. To ensure the greatest level of independence for the award, the Akademie Deutscher Buchpreis selects a new jury every year. It is possible to serve as a member of the jury more than once.

Publishers may submit titles

Starting now, publishers may nominate titles for the German Book Prize 2020 at www.deutscher-buchpreis.de/anmeldung. Between now and 23 March 2020, they may each submit two German-language novels – and recommend up to five additional titles – from their current or forthcoming lists. To participate, applicants must be members of the Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels (German Publishers and Booksellers Association) or the Swiss or Austrian equivalents, the Schweizer Buchhändler- und Verleger-Verband (Swiss Booksellers and Publishers Association) and the Hauptverband des Österreichischen Buchhandels (Austrian Publishers and Booksellers Association). The books must be published between 1 October 2019 and 15 September 2020 (when the shortlist will be announced). The books themselves, reading copies, e-books or galley proofs may be submitted until 12 June 2020.
The novel of the year will be selected through a multiple-stage process. First, the jury will review all of the novels submitted by the publishers and compile a longlist of 20 titles, which will be announced on 18 August 2020. From this list, the jurors will then select six titles for the shortlist, which will be revealed on 15 September 2020. These six authors will only find out which of them has won the German Book Prize on the evening of the award ceremony.

The ceremony will be held in the Kaisersaal of the Frankfurt Römer on 12 October 2020, to coincide with the start of Frankfurter Buchmesse (Frankfurt Book Fair). The winner will receive 25,000 euros, the five finalists 2,500 euros each. Saša Stanišić won the German Book Prize 2019 for his novel “Herkunft” (“Origins”).

The German Book Prize is awarded by the Stiftung Buchkultur und Leseförderung des Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels (Foundation for Book Culture and the Promotion of Reading of the German Publishers and Booksellers Association). It receives funding from the Deutsche Bank Stiftung (Deutsche Bank Foundation), and additional partners include Frankfurter Buchmesse and the city of Frankfurt am Main. The television network Deutsche Welle supports the German Book Prize in its media activities both at home and abroad.

For more information and the application materials, please visit www.deutscher-buchpreis.de/en.

The hashtag for the German Book Prize 2020 is #dbp20.

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