CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: 2022 Mathical Book Prize
Awarded by the Mathematical Science Research Institute (MSRI)
In partnership with the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)
and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)
and in coordination with the Children’s Book Council (CBC)

Deadline for Submissions: September 29, 2021

The Mathical Book Prize is awarded to literary fiction and nonfiction titles written for youth ages 2-18. The aim of the prize is to inspire a love of math in the world around us.

A single title will be awarded the Mathical Book Prize annually in each of five age categories. Additional titles may be named as Honor Books across the same categories:

- Pre-K
- Grades K-2
- Grades 3-5
- Grades 6-8
- Grades 9-12

Winning titles may inspire a love of math in many ways, often by connecting with children’s interests across many different genres and subject areas, from magic, sports, art, music, and poetry, to biography, adventure, graphic novels, and of course, picture books for the very young.

Both literary merit and mathematical interest must be present for a book to be eligible for the prize. Creative approaches that embrace math as logic and problem solving, math as the finding of patterns, and math as critical and artistic thinking, are encouraged.

By analogy, in our schools we teach music theory and music appreciation. While many school curricula teach math as a theoretical subject, the Mathical Book Prize celebrates the appreciation of mathematics: its beauty, and its applications.

The 2022 Mathical winners will join an exclusive and ever-growing resource list that is promoted nationally among librarians, K-12 teachers, mathematicians, science and children’s museums, and after-school programs for youth in need.

Publishers are advised to review the portfolio of books previously awarded to gain a greater sense of eligible titles.

FEES
There is no submission fee for the 2022 Mathical Book Prize.

ELIGIBILITY
Only books published in 2021 will be eligible for the Mathical Book Prize.

Both fiction and literary nonfiction titles may be submitted.

- Books must be intended for grades PreK-12.
- All books must originate with a children’s publishing company or division and must be published (not simply distributed) by a publisher incorporated in the U.S.
- Original paperbacks are eligible; paperback reprints are not. If a book is published simultaneously in hardcover and paperback, either edition may be submitted.
- Textbooks, workbooks, kits, experiment-only books, and activity books are not eligible.
- Spanish-language editions published in the U.S. simultaneously with English-language editions are eligible.
- Books translated into English are eligible.
- Publishers agree to share publicity materials (such as high-resolution cover images) for use in marketing of the winning titles, if selected.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES
Books are chosen to support students’ pleasure reading by encouraging the independent pursuit of the joy, beauty, and power of mathematics in the world around us. Titles are
suited for library collections, informal learning settings, and classroom studies.

The selection panel looks first for literary quality; secondly, for well-presented books that contain substantial and inspirational math content; that are clear, accurate, and inviting in their approach to mathematics.

Some books will share easily recognizable math skills through a well-told story. Many others will simply suggest or encourage an enjoyment of mathematics in the broadest sense, by a variety of different approaches.

**NUMBER OF TITLES YOU MAY SUBMIT**

Publishers may submit a maximum of 3 titles.

**SHIPPING YOUR BOOKS**

We will continue to accept PDF manuscripts this year. Do not ship any books unless instructed to do so.

You will be asked to submit one PDF copy of each title to an MSRI staff contact. The manuscripts will be held in strict confidence and utilized only for the purpose of Mathical Book Prize selection.

MSRI will send uploading instructions to participating publishers. Book manuscripts must be uploaded by October 6, 2021 to be reviewed.

**SELECTION OF WINNING TITLES**

Title selection will be made in January 2022, and the public announcement of the 2022 Prize winners is planned for a live online winners’ event in February 2022. An additional announcement will be made at a national conference on mathematics education in Spring 2022.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Kirsten Bohl, Mathical Book Prize coordinator, for more information: mathical@msri.org or 510.499.5181.

Additional information may be found at mathicalbooks.org.