



Will Eisner
Comic Industry
Awards

2026 EISNER AWARDS

Call For Entries

Under the auspices of
Comic-Con International

ENTRIES ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED for the 2026 Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards, to be given to the best publications and creators of 2025. Awards will be presented in the following **tentative** categories:

- Best short story
- Best single issue/one-shot
- Best continuing comic book series (at least two issues must have been published in 2025)
- Best limited comic book series (at least half of the series must have been published in 2025)
- Best new comic book series
- Best publication for early readers (up to age 8)
- Best publication for kids (ages 9–12)
- Best publication for teens (ages 13–17)
- Best anthology
- Best humor publication
- Best U.S. edition of international material
- Best U.S. edition of international material—Asia
- Best graphic album—new material
- Best graphic album—reprint material (not archival)
- Best reality-based work (graphic novel or comic)
- Best graphic memoir
- Best adaptation from another medium
- Best digital comic (published online in 2025)
- Best webcomic (long-form stories published online in 2025)
- Best archival collection: comic strips/Best archival collection: comic books (material must be at least 20 years old)
- Best writer (who does not also do the art on a title)
- Best writer/artist (cartoonist)
- Best penciller/inker or penciller/inker team (nonwriter)
- Best painter (interior art, not covers)
- Best cover artist (must be for multiple covers)
- Best coloring
- Best lettering
- Best comics-related book
- Best comics-related journalism or periodical
- Best academic/scholarly work
- Best publication design

THE SELECTION PROCESS: An independent panel of judges will carefully consider all entries and choose the items to be included on the final ballot. The judges may add or drop categories at their discretion. In May the final ballot will be available online to the comics industry (publishers, creators, distributors, retailers). The winners will be announced at the San Diego Comic-Con in July.

WHO CAN SUBMIT ENTRIES: Publishers and creators are invited to submit entries. A publisher can submit a set of entries for each of its imprints or subdivisions.

ELIGIBILITY: Any comic, graphic novel/album, or comics-related periodical/book shipped to retailers or bookstores or first made available online in the U.S. between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025 is eligible. Publications must not be more than 50 percent reprint material (except in the graphic album—reprint and archival categories); international material published for the first time in English the United States in 2025 is eligible.

CRITERION: The primary criterion for submissions should be overall quality. Popularity and sales should not figure into selection of entries.

HOW TO SUBMIT ENTRIES: ONE copy of each comic, album, book, or periodical must be provided for the judges to consider. Physical copies are preferred but pdfs are also accepted. **Publishers may submit up to a maximum of five nominees in any one category.** For items entered in multiple categories, **only one copy** need be submitted. (Sorry, entries cannot be returned. Nominated items will be kept for display at the Comic-Con Art Show and will go into the awards archives at Virginia Commonwealth University; the remaining items will be donated to the Comic-Con Blood Drive.) For webcomics and digital comics, please submit URLs and access information.

A **cover letter** must accompany submissions, indicating what is being submitted and in what categories. Be sure to supply contact information, **including a mailing address and an e-mail address.** For each category, the cover letter should provide the title and the writer and artist credits. Example:

Dear Eisner Awards:

I am enclosing the following items for consideration: Best continuing series: *This Comic* by R. Goldbach (w) and S. Neese (p/i); Best graphic album—new: *Picture This* by Q. Ibrahim; Best writer/artist: Jane Doe for *My Favorite Book*; Best coloring: Duke Messerman for *Swiftly* . . . (and so on).

All entries must be **received** at the Comic-Con offices by March 13, 2026. If you have any questions, email Laura Jones: laura@comic-con.org.

DEADLINE: March 13, 2026

Mail submissions to:
Eisner Awards
Comic-Con International
4375 Jutland Drive
San Diego, CA 92117