

Open for Entries

For all aspiring children's book illustrators
Closing Date: 26th April 2024, 17:30



Kate Rolfe 2021



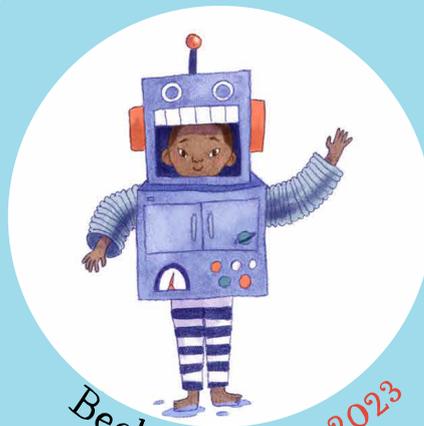
Jake Alexander 2019



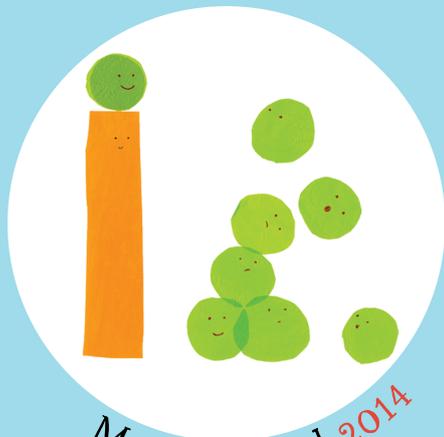
Gemma Merino 2011



Emily Gravett 2004



Becky Colvin 2023



Morag Hood 2014



Bethan Woollvin 2014

Open to non-professional illustrators who are aged 18+ and UK residents
No fees for entry
Full terms and conditions at
www.panmacmillan.com/mac-prize-terms-and-conditions



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The Macmillan Prize for Illustration is awarded for an unpublished Children's Picture Book. The award was established by Macmillan Children's Books in 1985 in order to stimulate new work from young illustrators and to help them start their professional lives.

The Brief

All entrants must submit:

- Pencil roughs or sketches for a children's picture book - cover to cover - including text or a clear indication of the storyline.
- Finished artwork for at least four double-page spreads, or at least three spreads and a front cover.
- There is no theme for the competition and entries may work on different levels, but it is important to remember that the main audience for the book is a child.
- The competition is for a series of outstanding illustrations that show the artist understands how to match pictures to text. The pictures should also demonstrate the entrant's grasp of narrative, pacing, and characterisation.
- The judges are ultimately looking for high-quality illustrations suitable for children's books, which are considered to be an original contribution to the field

The Format

Length: Picture books should be between 24-32 pages long; this includes the front and back endpapers, a title page and a copyright page.

Format: Although submissions are digital only, we can accept books with novelty elements (e.g. flaps, fold-out pages), and these should not exceed 24 pages. Pop-up books should not exceed 6 double-page spreads. Novelty entries should be scanned artwork. Photographs to demonstrate novelty elements may also be included but should be part of the PDF.

Size: The page size of the finished book should not exceed 300mm in width or height.

The Text

The book may be fiction or non-fiction.

The entrant may:

- Devise their own text/story
- Collaborate with a writer
- Use a traditional story (e.g. a fairy tale)

Text generated wholly or in part by AI technologies is not eligible and should not be used.

A published text that is in copyright would not be eligible and should not be used.

The Artwork

AI: Artwork generated wholly or in part by AI technologies is not eligible and should not be submitted

Size: Artwork may be prepared either to the same size, or up to 30% larger than the page size of the finished book. Corner marks to show the trim (i.e. the edge of the final printed page) should be clearly indicated outside the area of the actual work.

Bleed: Allow for at least 5mm extra (after reduction) outside the trim if the artwork is to come to the edge of the printed page. Avoid putting important details within 5mm of the edge of the page, or where illustration crosses the spine.

Medium: Any medium may be used, but it is advisable to avoid luminous paint, fragile collage or other media that will not reproduce well.

Lettering: Any lettering should be in black, please incorporate it as part of the page design and make it as legible as possible.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the 2023 competition, you must:

- Be aged 18 or over and resident in the United Kingdom at point of entry.
- Have less than one year of paid or unpaid work experience working as an illustrator at a book publisher.
- Not be a professional illustrator in the book publishing sector, where your income is derived exclusively or mainly from illustrating books, including covers.
- Not have entered into a publishing contract or accepted an offer of publication from a book publisher in the UK or elsewhere in respects to any of your illustrations (including for a cover illustration.)
- Not be a director or employee of Macmillan (or members of their immediate families or households) or be connected with the running or judging of the competition.
- Entrants may only submit one entry.
- There is no fee to enter the competition, although entrants are responsible for all costs associated with preparing and submitting their entries.

The Prizes
First Place: £1,000
Second Place: £500
Third Place: £250

full terms and conditions:

www.panmacmillan.com/mac-prize-terms-and-conditions

email: macmillanprize@macmillan.co.uk