

Press Release

New Awards Aim to Highlight Role of Independent Publishing

- Funds raised go to Aware -

A brand new writing competition has just launched, aimed at providing a platform for self-published authors in Ireland and entry fees for the competition will be donated to the mental health support and education services of national charity Aware. The Carousel Aware Prize for Independent Authors (CAP for Indie Awards) is now open for entries at writingcap.ie and submissions are invited from all Independently Published, Self-Published and Assisted Published Authors from Ireland and Northern Ireland. The Awards are sponsored by Dubray Books and Eason, and winning entries in each of the six categories will be sold through their stores nationwide.

Author Carolann Copland who came up with the idea for this initiative believes the competition has huge potential and will attract some very special entries: "I feel that these awards are going to go far. Self-publishing has changed the face of publishing as we know it and we think Ireland could do with a little nudge to help it along. We believe there is a natural and complementary link between writing and mental health so we are delighted to work with Aware and support their services also. Blogger Tara Sparling who is one of our committee members described the competition, coupled with the choice of Aware as the charity to benefit, as "a double whammy of positive positivity". What a lovely way to describe it!"

There are six categories available for entry and each will be judged by an accomplished author:

Best Novel	judged by International Bestselling Author Jax Miller
Best Short Story Anthology	judged by Bord Gáis Award Winning Author Louise Phillips
Best Non-Fiction Book	judged by Books Ireland Magazine Editor Tony Canavan
Best Poetry Anthology	judged by Award Winning Poet and Writer Eileen Casey
Best Young Adult Book	judged by Bestselling Young Adult Novelist Claire Hennessy
Best Junior Book	judged by Self-Published Author Carolann Copland in conjunction with the pupils and teachers of St. Comcille's Junior N.S., Knocklyon

Jax Miller, author of Freedom's Child is delighted to be involved in the project: "The CAP for Indie Awards are an excellent way to shine a light onto and into the Indie book scene as it makes its mark in Ireland and around the literary world. I am delighted that the proceeds will go to Aware; with depression affecting so many people around Ireland and the rest of the world, how wonderful it is to be a part of such an amazing showcase that can also help to lessen the burden. As an author who has struggled with depression for years, I am thrilled to combine my passion for reading and writing with such a good cause that's personal to my own story and the stories of so many I know. It is an honour to be a judge on the CAP Awards panel and I look forward to what richness comes this way."

Closing date for entries is Monday April 29th. Books must have an ISBN number or equivalent and the overall winners will be announced at The CAP for Indie Awards Evening on Wednesday October 26th next.

Ends

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