

Hub City Press Code of Ethics

As a member of the Council of Literary Magazines and Presses, we subscribe to this code of ethics for the C. Michael Curtis Short Story Book Prize: CLMP's community of independent literary publishers believes that ethical contests serve our shared goal: to connect writers and readers by publishing exceptional writing. We believe that intent to act ethically, clarity of guidelines, and transparency of process form the foundation of an ethical contest. To that end, we agree to 1) conduct our contests as ethically as possible and to address any unethical behavior on the part of our readers, judges, or editors; 2) to provide clear and specific contest guidelines—defining conflict of interest for all parties involved; and 3) to make the mechanics of our selection process available to the public. This Code recognizes that different contest models produce different results, but that each model can be run ethically. We have adopted this Code to reinforce our integrity and dedication as a publishing community and to ensure that our contests contribute to a vibrant literary heritage.

Hub City Press uses a blind judging system to determine our winner. This is how it works:

- We contract with a project administrator who works outside the Hub City Press offices. She receives manuscripts through the online submission portal, and removes any identifying information. Each manuscript is assigned a number. She maintains a database of your name, manuscript name, and number of your manuscript so we can keep track of you.
- We employ a group of paid screeners who read the manuscripts. Screeners must affirm in writing that they do not know the authors of the manuscripts they receive and must return any manuscripts familiar or recognizable to them for assignment to another screen. Screeners will receive about 25 manuscripts each and will provide one-paragraph reviews about the top one or two choices to the project administrator.
- The top choices from the screeners are given to a senior reader. The senior reader will choose up to eight finalists from among the screener's choices.
- These finalists are sent to Lee K. Abbott, who will select the winner.
- Throughout the screening process and until the winners are selected, only the project administrator will know the identity of the writers.