



# Chainlinks

Information & opportunities for creative people

## Arts opportunities

### **The Art House & ROSL Arts**

seek proposals from artists for a two-month residency in West Yorkshire in autumn 2021.

Travel, living costs, studio space and access to a fully equipped print studio are included. Our aim is to help develop the practice of an early/mid-career artist living and working in commonwealth or former commonwealth countries who have not exhibited or studied in the UK. Artists who work in contemporary visual art, including photography, new media, fine art, moving image, live art, architecture, crafts, design, site-specific, socially engaged and interdisciplinary practices can apply. Visit:

[www.rosl.org.uk/roslinternationalresidency](http://www.rosl.org.uk/roslinternationalresidency) for more information.

**Deadline 6 September 2020**

**The Moth Art Prize** is for a body of figurative or representational artwork. Submit a portfolio of 5-10 images of 2D artwork: paintings, drawings and original prints. Winner receives €1,000 plus a 2-week retreat in Ireland. Details online at:

[www.themothmagazine.com/](http://www.themothmagazine.com/)

**Deadline 31 August 2020**

### **The Society of Wildlife**

**Artists** invites submissions of 2D and 3D artwork representing the world's wildlife for their Annual Exhibition at London's Mall Galleries. Work may be in any medium including painting, sculpture and original prints. Submission fee £18 per work (or £12 per work for artists aged 35 or under). All work must be for sale, minimum price £200. The price of works must include commission of 45% + VAT. See our website for full details:

[swla.co.uk/wp-swla/submissions/](http://swla.co.uk/wp-swla/submissions/)

**Deadline 4 September 2020**

### **The Textile Society Museum, Archive and Conservation**

**Award** offers up to £5,000 for a textile related project within the museum, conservation or archive sector. Projects should have a clear educational objective to increase public access to a collection or archive. Check our website for details:

[www.textilesociety.org.uk/bursaries-awards/museum-award.php](http://www.textilesociety.org.uk/bursaries-awards/museum-award.php)

**Deadline 30 September 2020**

### **The Textile Society Professional Development**

**Award** is for those practising professionally in craft, design, curatorial, scientific or any other related textile field. The Award is for a monetary bursary and is aimed at PhD students and professionals working within a recognised textile field. The Award is given on the strength of the applicant meeting the professional criteria within their set textile field. Check website for details of this year's awards:

[www.textilesociety.org.uk/bursaries-awards/professional-development-award.php](http://www.textilesociety.org.uk/bursaries-awards/professional-development-award.php)

**Deadline 1 October 2020**

### **Open Call for Online**

**Exhibition** We invite artists working in all types of media to submit work for our upcoming online exhibition. The theme is *consideration of aesthetics*.

Art is widely viewed as a vessel for communicating ideas and meanings. Can the meaning be communicated in a simpler way, and are the efforts to create aesthetic pieces of work, just getting in the way? The work will be shown in a virtual reality based exhibition through Art Steps and will be accompanied by a written essay exploring the subject. Take a look online:

[www.curatorspace.com/opportunities/detail/open-call-for-online-exhibition/4589](http://www.curatorspace.com/opportunities/detail/open-call-for-online-exhibition/4589) for more details.

**Deadline 1 August 2020**

### **The Woon Foundation**

**Painting & Sculpture Prize** is a component of the partnership between Northumbria University and BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art. All UK undergraduate Fine Art students who are in their final year of study, graduating in summer 2020, can apply. Due to Covid-19, the deadline has been extended. 1<sup>st</sup> prize includes a bursary of £20,000 for a Fellowship at Northumbria University, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize £9,000, 3<sup>rd</sup> £6,000. More details online at:

[baltic.art/woonprize](http://baltic.art/woonprize)

**Deadline 31 July 2020**

### **The London International Creative Competition**

welcomes submissions. There are cash prizes and awards on offer. Categories are:

- Build (Architecture)
- Create (Art)
- Illustrate (Graphic)
- Decorate (Interior)
- Shoot (Photo/Video)
- Use (Product)

We want to hear from both experienced designers and new, exciting artists. See website: [licc.uk/about/](http://licc.uk/about/) for information.

**Deadlines:**

**Earlybird 31 July 2020**

**Final 21 December 2020**

**The Tŷ Pawb Open**, Wrexham, invites submissions for an exhibition to celebrate lockdown creativity. Traditional and contemporary processes will be considered, including 3D work, video and performance. We are keen to see how artists, locally and nationally, have continued to make work during lockdown.

**Judges' Prize £1,000**, People's Prize £500, Young Person's Prize £250, Adaptability Prize £500.

Visit our website:

[www.typawb.wales/ty-pawb-open](http://www.typawb.wales/ty-pawb-open) to find out more.

**Deadline 31 July 2020**

**The SDC International Design Competition** is open to undergraduates in higher or further education following a first degree or diploma course in fashion/textile design in the UK and several other countries. The prize is £1,000 and entry is free. The theme is **Colour and the Universe**. See our website: [sdc.org.uk/competition/sdc-international-design-competition-2020/](http://sdc.org.uk/competition/sdc-international-design-competition-2020/) for Covid-19 updates.  
**Deadline 30 November 2020**

**Blue Sky Museums** is an Arts & Heritage project established during the Covid-19 crisis. We invite artists to create unusual and ambitious projects for certain museums. Artists can engage in idea development, without the restrictions of practical delivery or limitation of a budget. This is not a project that will actually happen - the responses won't result in a full-scale commission. We want to see your imagined commissions in visual, audio, film or any other form we can display online. We will select 25 bold, innovative ideas. Send us good visuals, film edits, sound files, etc that give a clear, lively description of your idea. Selected responses will receive £500. Deadlines are:  
**Lion Salt Works**, Cheshire  
**\*\*Deadline 10 July 2020**

**Kelham Island Museum**, Sheffield  
**Deadline 24 July 2020**

**Bronte Parsonage Museum**, Howarth, Yorkshire  
**Deadline 7 August 2020**

For full details, see our website: [www.artsandheritage.org.uk/2020/05/05/launching-blue-sky-museums/](http://www.artsandheritage.org.uk/2020/05/05/launching-blue-sky-museums/)

**Qube Open Art Competition** invites works in any medium, including illustration, textile, sculpture, metal work, jewellery or watercolour. Entries can be 2D, 3D or digital. Shortlisted work will be exhibited at Qube, Oswestry, in August-September 2020. The theme is *Reflections*. We offer a £500 prize, and the People's Choice prize of an exhibition in 2021. Details online at: [qube-oca.org.uk/artsopen/](http://qube-oca.org.uk/artsopen/)  
**\*\*Deadline 11 July 2020**

**The Society of Wildlife Artists** seeks submissions that depict wildlife and the natural world, for our exhibition at London's Mall galleries in October 2020. We accept work in any medium: painting, sculpture and original prints etc. Prizes and awards include the **Terravesta Prize of £2,000**. Entry £18 (£12 for artists aged 35 or under). Work must be for sale, for at least £200. See: [www.mallgalleries.org.uk/call-for-entries/open-exhibitions/society-wildlife-artists](http://www.mallgalleries.org.uk/call-for-entries/open-exhibitions/society-wildlife-artists) for more details.  
**Deadline 4 September 2020**

**The Festival of Thrift** will commission *One Beautiful Moment* to be accessed online in September 2020 as part of our festival of sustainability. We seek ideas that are creative, accessible, challenging and thought provoking. We are also keen to see a live participatory element. We will commission one work with a budget of up to £1,000. See our website: [www.festivalofthrift.co.uk/viewpoints-one-beautiful-moment-artist-call-out/](http://www.festivalofthrift.co.uk/viewpoints-one-beautiful-moment-artist-call-out/) for more information.  
**\*\*Deadline 10 July 2020**

**The Royal Institute of Oil Painters** invite works to display at their annual exhibition at London's Mall Galleries in November 2020. We accept oils, including acrylic and water-soluble oil paint. Entry fee £18 (£12 for artists aged 35 or under). This year's optional mini-theme is *Reflections*. Works must be for sale, minimum price £300. We offer several cash prizes and awards. Application opens 6 July 2020. Visit: [www.mallgalleries.org.uk/call-for-entries/open-exhibitions/royal-institute-oil-painters](http://www.mallgalleries.org.uk/call-for-entries/open-exhibitions/royal-institute-oil-painters) for details.  
**Deadline 11 September 2020**

**Liverpool-based DaDaFest** are working with Unlimited and the Granada Foundation to offer d/deaf and/or disabled artists micro commissions of up to £1,000 or festival commissions of up to £2,500 to be presented as part of DaDaFest's 2020/21 season. See our website: [www.dadafest.co.uk/artist-call-out/](http://www.dadafest.co.uk/artist-call-out/) for more information.  
**\*\*Deadline 20 July 2020**

**A Poster Contest** to celebrate the United Nation's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary invites submissions. Artists are invited to interpret their own vision of what peace means, based on the history of the UN's actions. 10 posters will be displayed for one year in the UN Secretariat Building in New York, and also displayed online on the Artivive website. The event will be covered by the UN's official websites and social media channels in the six official UN languages. Details online at: [artivive.com/unopencall/](http://artivive.com/unopencall/)  
**Deadline 31 July 2020**

**Fresh Air Sculpture** is a selling event for artists and makers of 3D craft and sculpture. Entry for the 2021 show is open. Work must be suitable for an outdoor setting, and robust enough to survive the British weather. Bursaries of £250-£1,000 are offered for artists who want to change direction of their work - using different materials or equipment or needing access to specialist workshops, eg a ceramic artist might want to include glass in their work, a glass artist might want to combine stone and glass. Visit: [www.freshairsculpture.com/artists-application/](http://www.freshairsculpture.com/artists-application/) for more details.

### Photography opportunities

**Travel Photographer of the Year (TPOTY)** awards are run by photographers for photographers. Wherever you live in the world and whether you are amateur or professional, beginner or expert, young or old, TPOTY is for you! There are several categories and a range of prizes up for grabs. Visit: [www.tpoty.com/](http://www.tpoty.com/) for full details.  
**Deadline 2 November 2020**

**The 2020 Mars Petcare Comedy Pet Photographer Award** invites entries. The winner will be the picture which, in the judges' opinion, combines the best technical excellence with the most amusing content and caption. **Top prize £3,000**. See all the details online at: [www.comedypetphoto.com/mars-petcare.php](http://www.comedypetphoto.com/mars-petcare.php).  
**Deadline 31 August 2020**

### **International Colour Awards**

is open to professional and amateur photographers using all forms of colour photography and traditional or digital methods.

We encourage classic styles, new creative ideas and photographers who are driven by their artistic eye and a desire to excel in this classic art form.

Enter images in several categories. Visit our website: [www.colorawards.com/how-to-enter.html](http://www.colorawards.com/how-to-enter.html) for full information.

**Deadline 25 September 2020**

### **Monochrome Photography Awards 2020**

is an annual competition for professional and amateur photographers. Our mission is to celebrate monochrome visions and discover the most amazing photographers from around the world. The winners receive cash prizes. We are open to all points of view, all levels of expertise, and all ideas of black and white photography. Submit images in several categories. See website: [monoawards.com/](http://monoawards.com/) for details.

**Deadline 15 November 2020**

### **The 2020 SINWP Bird Photographer of the Year Competition**

invites you to enter your best bird images into this exciting photo competition and help raise vital funds for RSPB. A minimum donation of £1 per image is requested and 100% of the donations will go to the RSPB to help them protect wildlife and the wider countryside we love. Visit: [sinwp.com/bird/](http://sinwp.com/bird/) for more details.

**Deadline 30 September 2020**

### **The Luminar Bug Photography Awards 2020**

showcases the best invertebrate photography from around the world and will raise vital funds for invertebrate conservation. There are 10 categories plus the Young Bug Photographer for those aged 13-17. Awards include a **top prize of £2,500** and £250 for category winners. Entry £6 for one image, £24 for eight. Visit this website: [www.photocrowd.com/photo-competitions/photography-awards/bpa-2020/](http://www.photocrowd.com/photo-competitions/photography-awards/bpa-2020/) to see details.

**Deadline 7 September 2020**

### **RSPCA Young Photographer Awards**

aim to encourage young people to take an interest in photography and appreciate the animals around us. There are several categories, with awards given. There is also an overall winner. See details here: [young.rspca.org.uk/ypa/about](http://young.rspca.org.uk/ypa/about)

**Deadline 14 August 2020**

### **The Gomma Photography Grant**

supports photographers working in various genres. Submit black & white or colour, analogue or digital, Polaroid/Instagram etc. Portraiture, fine art, documentary or photo-journalism are accepted 1<sup>st</sup> prize €3,000, 2<sup>nd</sup> €500. See details at: [www.gommagrants.com](http://www.gommagrants.com)

**Deadlines:**

**Earlybird 31 August 2020**

**Final 27 October 2020**

### **World Nature Photography Awards**

showcase nature's beauty to a wider audience. Entry fee profits help the world's climate change organisations. Share your work and win a cash prize! Take a look online: [www.worldnaturephotographyawards.com/](http://www.worldnaturephotographyawards.com/) for more information.

**Deadline 15 August 2020**

### **The BBA Photography Prize**

invites entries on any theme, using any photo medium. Installations and conceptual works are welcome. Shortlisted entries are showcased in a group show as part of the European Month of Photography Berlin in October 2020 and the winner gets a solo show. See: [bba-gallery.com/photography-prize](http://bba-gallery.com/photography-prize) for more information.

**Deadline 26 August 2020**

### **The SPIE International Day of Light Photo Contest**

demonstrates the impact light has on cultural, economic and political aspects of our global society. Amateur and professional photographers can submit photos for a chance to win cash prizes. The theme is *A World of Light: The Vital Role That Light and Light-Based Technologies Play in Daily Life*. See our website for details: [spie.org/about-spie/international-day-of-light/spie-idl-photo-contest](http://spie.org/about-spie/international-day-of-light/spie-idl-photo-contest)

**Deadline 16 September 2020**

### **London Image Festival 2020**

invites submissions of photos in several categories. **Top prize £1,000**. Details online at: [londonimagefestival.co.uk/](http://londonimagefestival.co.uk/)  
**Deadline 31 October 2020**

### **Film opportunities**

#### **London Short Film Festival**

takes place in January 2021. We invite film entries demonstrating formal innovation, uniqueness of tone, and an engagement with cultural, political and social conversations happening globally. Submissions are open to short form from every genre - including drama, comedy, horror, sci-fi, documentary, animation, experimental work, music video, etc. Prizes worth over £6,000 are awarded, in six categories. Visit our website: [filmfreeway.com/LondonShortFilmFestival](http://filmfreeway.com/LondonShortFilmFestival) for full entry details.

**Deadline 24 August 2020**

**The UK Film Festival** invites submissions from filmmakers who would like to get their work screened in London. Submit:

- Short Films and Short Documentaries
- Feature Films and Feature Documentaries
- Student Shorts
- Animation Shorts
- Music Videos

See all the details online at:

[www.ukfilmfestival.com/submission/](http://www.ukfilmfestival.com/submission/)  
**Deadline 14 September 2020**

#### **Manchester Film Festival**

champions cinema from around the globe. Films will be screened with full surround sound and crystal-clear visuals. Key aspects of the festival are meeting and networking with other film creatives and industry professionals as well as connecting with audiences and film enthusiasts. See website for deadlines and how to apply: [filmfreeway.com/MANIFF](http://filmfreeway.com/MANIFF)

#### **Film the House**

is a Parliamentary-based competition open to UK student or independent filmmakers. Submit films in six categories and win prizes. Details are online at: [filmthehouse.co.uk/about](http://filmthehouse.co.uk/about)  
**Deadline 16 November 2020**

### **BFI Future Film Festival**

invites filmmakers aged 16-25 to submit work. There are £15,000 worth of prizes up for grabs, including cash to support your next film. Selected filmmakers can attend the festival at BFI Southbank, London. Submit any style or genre, in several categories. Films must be longer than 10 minutes and have been produced in the last two years. Take a look at our website: [filmfreeway.com/BFIFutureFilmFestival](http://filmfreeway.com/BFIFutureFilmFestival) for detailed information.  
**Deadline 7 August 2020**

### **Leeds International Film Festival**

is a qualifying film festival for the Oscars and BAFTAs and presents a diverse programme to celebrate the achievements of new and established talent from around the world. There are eight categories and £4,500 in cash prizes. Entry details online at: [www.leedsfilm.com/film-festivals/leeds-international-film-festival/liff-2020-submissions/](http://www.leedsfilm.com/film-festivals/leeds-international-film-festival/liff-2020-submissions/)  
**Deadline 10 August 2020**

### **Screenskills opportunities for filmmakers**

Make a Move: up to £10,000 for children's TV productions for on-the-job training. We invite companies to propose an ambitious training project in areas needed by the UK's children's live-action sector to ensure growth. Click on 'open applications' on our website: [www.screenskills.com/opportunities/all/](http://www.screenskills.com/opportunities/all/) to see all our opportunities.  
**Deadline 31 March 2021**

**Short Sounds Film Festival** is dedicated to the cinema's crafts of sound and music. We love composers and sound designers, the unsung heroes of film, TV and games, whose work is integral to pace, setting, tone and atmosphere. We screen short-form and feature-length documentaries, dramas and animations that push boundaries in sound design and music. Submissions are open for feature-length movies, short films, and scores. Find out more at: [shortsounds.co.uk/](http://shortsounds.co.uk/)  
**Deadlines:**  
**Earlybird 31 July 2020**  
**Regular 31 October 2020**

### **Writing opportunities**

#### **Troubadour International Poetry Prize 2020**

Submit poems of up to 45 lines.  
**1<sup>st</sup> prize £2,000**, 2<sup>nd</sup> £1,000, 3<sup>rd</sup> £500. All details online at: [www.coffeehousepoetry.org/prizes](http://www.coffeehousepoetry.org/prizes)  
**Deadline 28 September 2020**

#### **Fool for Poetry International Chapbook Competition 2020**

New, emerging and established poets from anywhere can apply.  
**1<sup>st</sup> prize €1,000**, 2<sup>nd</sup> €500. The winning chapbooks will be published by Southword Editions and launched at the Cork International Poetry Festival. Winners are also offered a reading and three nights' accommodation at the Festival. Submit manuscripts of 16-24 pages. Poems can be in verse or prose. Entry fee €25. Visit: [munsterlit.ie/Fool%20for%20Poetry.html](http://munsterlit.ie/Fool%20for%20Poetry.html) to see all the details.  
**Deadline 31 August 2020**

#### **Bedford 2020 Short Story and Poetry Competitions**

invite submissions:  
**Stories** of up to 3000 words on any theme. Entry fee £6 for one story or £12 for three. Entrants aged over 70 will also be entered into the Rainbow Short Story Prize.  
**Poems** of up to 40 lines. Entry fee £6 for one or £12 for three.  
Prizes for all contests:  
**1<sup>st</sup> prize £500**, 2<sup>nd</sup> £150, 3<sup>rd</sup> £100. For more information see: [bedfordwritingcompetition.co.uk/](http://bedfordwritingcompetition.co.uk/)  
**Deadline 31 October 2020**

#### **The Yale Drama Series 2021 playwriting competition**

invites submissions of original, unpublished full-length plays, with at least 65 pages, written in English. Worldwide submissions are accepted. The Yale Drama Series aims to support emerging playwrights. The winner will be awarded the David Charles Horn Prize of \$10,000, publication of their manuscript by Yale University Press, and a staged reading at Lincoln Center's Claire Tow Theater in New York. Free entry. Check our website: [yalebooks.yale.edu/yale-drama-series-submissions](http://yalebooks.yale.edu/yale-drama-series-submissions) for full details.  
**Deadline 15 August 2020**

**The Dinesh Allirajah Prize for Short Fiction** is open to UK residents aged 18 or over. Entry is free. Writers are invited to submit a story of 2,000-6,000 words on the subject of *Home*. Winner receives £500 and 10 shortlisted authors will be featured in an ebook anthology published by Comma Press and sold online. See our website: [commapress.co.uk/resources/prizes/](http://commapress.co.uk/resources/prizes/) for more information.  
**Deadline 23 October 2020**

#### **The Cinnamon Pencil Mentoring Competition**

is a chance to win a free place on our mentoring scheme. Work one-to-one online with experienced tutors and writers for a year of feedback on a fiction or poetry manuscript. Send us either 10 poems, up to 50 lines each, or 2 short stories, up to 5,000 words each, or up to 10,000 words of your novel. Entry fee £10. Apply online at: [www.cinnamonpress.com/index.php/competitions/cinnamon-pencil-competition](http://www.cinnamonpress.com/index.php/competitions/cinnamon-pencil-competition)  
**Deadline 31 August 2020**

#### **Flash 500 Writing contests**

**Novel Opening Chapter & Synopsis** Have you started or completed a novel with strong, credible characters and a page turning plot? Submit an opening chapter of up to 3,000 words, plus a one-page synopsis outlining the rest of the story. Entry fee £10. Optional critique of one chapter and synopsis £25. **1<sup>st</sup> prize £500**, Runner up £200. See online: [flash500.com/novels/](http://flash500.com/novels/) for details.  
**Deadline 31 October 2020**  
**Flash Fiction Competition** for stories of up to 500 words on any theme. Entry fee £5 for one story, £8 for two. Critiques £15. **1<sup>st</sup> prize £300**, 2<sup>nd</sup> £200, 3<sup>rd</sup> £100. For more details, visit: [flash500.com/flash-fiction/](http://flash500.com/flash-fiction/)  
**Deadline 30 September 2020**

#### **The Buzzwords Poetry Competition**

invites poems of up to 70 lines. **1<sup>st</sup> prize £600**, runner-up £300. Entry fee £4-£4.35 per poem. See website: [buzzwordspetry.blogspot.com/page-14.html](http://buzzwordspetry.blogspot.com/page-14.html) for details.  
**Deadline 22 August 2020**

### **The Mslexia Fiction & Memoir Competition 2020**

**Children's & YA Novel** Women who are unpublished as novelists can submit the first 5,000 words of a completed novel of at least 20,000 words long, for children and/or young adult readers.

**1<sup>st</sup> prize £5,000.** Entry fee £25.

### **Memoir & Life Writing**

Women who are unpublished as authors of book-length creative non-fiction can submit the first 5,000 words of a completed manuscript. The completed work should be at least 50,000 words that narrate events in the writer's life and/or a quest undertaken. **1<sup>st</sup> prize £5,000.** Entry fee £25.

**Short Story** Submit short fiction of up to 3,000 words, in any style or genre, for adults or young adults. Unpublished and published women are eligible to enter. **£3,000 prize** plus publication in Mslexia magazine and a week at an Arvon writing centre. Entry fee £10.

**Flash Fiction** Submit complete stories of up to 300 words long. Unpublished and published women are eligible to enter. **1<sup>st</sup> prize £500.** Entry fee £5.

For details of all contests, see: [mslexia.co.uk/competitions/](http://mslexia.co.uk/competitions/)  
**Deadline 21 September 2020**

### **Austin McCauley Publishers**

accept manuscripts across all genres, from anywhere in the world. Whether you are a new author or have been previously published, we want to hear from you. To see more about us visit: [www.austinmccauley.com/arm-publishers-submissions](http://www.austinmccauley.com/arm-publishers-submissions)

### **Hammond House Publishing**

**2020 Literary Prize** invites entries on the theme *Survival*. Consider an environmental crisis, zombie apocalypse, broken relationship, etc. Submit:

**Poetry** of up to 40 lines.

**1<sup>st</sup> prize £100.**

**Short story** of 1,000–5,000 words. **1<sup>st</sup> prize £500.**

**Screenplay short film** - up to 10 pages. **1<sup>st</sup> prize £100.**

Entry fee £10. See our website: [www.hammondhousepublishing.com/competitions](http://www.hammondhousepublishing.com/competitions) for full details.

**Deadline 30 September 2020**

### **The TA First Translation**

**Prize** offers £2,000 for a debut literary translation into English published in the UK and Ireland. Work submitted must be your first published solo book-length literary translation and must have been published between April 2019 and March 2020. See: [www.societyofauthors.org/Prizes/Translation-Prizes/TA-First-Translation-Prize](http://www.societyofauthors.org/Prizes/Translation-Prizes/TA-First-Translation-Prize) for more details.

**Deadline 1 August 2020**

### **Chalk Circle Short Story**

**Competition 2020** invite writers to submit short stories inspired by this time of self-isolation. Consider dystopian nightmares, absurdist humour, or stories to celebrate what you love, have recently discovered, or fear to lose. Stories can be up to 2,000 words. **1<sup>st</sup> prize £200,** **2<sup>nd</sup> £100.** Entry fee £6. Visit: [www.chalkcircle.org.uk/competitions](http://www.chalkcircle.org.uk/competitions) to see all the details.

**Deadline 31 August 2020**

### **The Costa Short Story Award**

is for a previously unpublished short story of up to 4,000 words written in English. Published or unpublished writers can apply. The public read the top three shortlisted stories and vote for their favourite. Entry opens 1 July 2020. See our website: [www.costa.co.uk/behind-the-beans/costa-book-awards/short-story-award](http://www.costa.co.uk/behind-the-beans/costa-book-awards/short-story-award) for full details.

### **Royal Society of Literature - 2020 Giles St Aubyn Awards**

are for first-commissioned works of non-fiction. **There are three awards: £10,000, £5,000 and £2,500.** We aim to provide financial support for talented new writers to complete their first non-fiction book. For full information, see our website:

[rsliterature.org/award/rsl-giles-st-aubyn-awards-for-non-fiction/](http://rsliterature.org/award/rsl-giles-st-aubyn-awards-for-non-fiction/)

**Deadline 31 July 2020**

### **The 2020 Exeter Story**

**Prize** invites stories of up to 5,000 words on any theme. **1<sup>st</sup> prize £500,** **2<sup>nd</sup> £150,** Trish Ashley Award £200 (for quirky and engaging stories.) Entry fee of £12 including brief feedback. See all entry details online at: [www.creativewritingmatters.co.uk/2020-exeter-story-prize.html](http://www.creativewritingmatters.co.uk/2020-exeter-story-prize.html)

**Deadline 31 August 2020**

### **Saveas Writers' International Writing Competition 2020 – Post Apocalypse**

To commemorate the 40th anniversary of the publication of *Riddley Walker* by Russell Hoban, we invite poems and short stories that respond to the themes of this novel. Write about an area, a society, a world before, during or after a nuclear disaster, a pandemic, a deluge or any other disaster. Submit up to 60 lines of poetry, or prose of up to 3,500 words. Entry fees: £3 per poem, £4 per short story. **1<sup>st</sup> prize £200.** Details online at: [www.saveaswriters.co.uk/competitions/post-apocalypse.html](http://www.saveaswriters.co.uk/competitions/post-apocalypse.html)

**Deadline 31 August 2020**

### **The 2021 Prole Poetry Pamphlet Competition**

invites submissions of 20–40 pages of poetry. We seek writing that engages and challenges readers and accept all styles and subject matter. Entry fee £12. Winner receives £200. Visit website: [prolebooks.co.uk/pamphlet%20competition.html](http://prolebooks.co.uk/pamphlet%20competition.html) for entry details.

**Deadline 16 September 2020**

### **PlayBox 2021: calling North West playwrights**

Box of Tricks seeks early-career North West playwrights for their 2021 talent development programme. Selected playwrights receive £1,000 to take part in a year-long talent development attachment during which time they will write a new play with dramaturgical support, develop the piece at a workshop with actors and receive a public rehearsed reading of their play. Entry opens 6 July 2020. Visit: [boxoftrickstheatre.co.uk/playwrights/playbox/playbox-2021/](http://boxoftrickstheatre.co.uk/playwrights/playbox/playbox-2021/) for full application details.

**Deadline 31 August 2020**

### **The Moth Nature Writing**

**Prize** will be awarded for an unpublished piece of prose fiction or poetry which best combines literary merit with the writer's relationship with the natural world. Submit up to 4,000 words. **1<sup>st</sup> prize €3,000.** Entry fee is €15.

See online for details:

[www.themothmagazine.com/](http://www.themothmagazine.com/)

**Deadline 15 September 2020**

### **Contests from Retreat West**

**Short Story Prize** for stories of 1,500 – 3,000 words. Stories can be in any genre apart from children's fiction and erotica. 1<sup>st</sup> prize £400, 2<sup>nd</sup> £250, 3<sup>rd</sup> £150. Entry fee £10 per story.

**Flash Fiction Prize** for stories up to 500 words long, in any genre apart from children's fiction. 1<sup>st</sup> prize £350, 2<sup>nd</sup> £200, 3<sup>rd</sup> £100. Entry fee £8 per story.

See our website:

[www.retreatwest.co.uk/competitions/](http://www.retreatwest.co.uk/competitions/) for details of all contests.

**Deadline 25 October 2020**

### **The Hubert Butler Essay**

**Prize** aims to encourage the art of essay-writing with a European dimension and to expand interest in Butler's work. Submit essays in English and no more than 3,000 words long. The subject is: *Communal solidarity and individual freedom: antagonists or allies?* Authors must be UK or European Union citizens. 1<sup>st</sup> prize £1,000 and two 2<sup>nd</sup> prizes of £500. See:

[www.hubertbutleressayprize.com/how-to-enter](http://www.hubertbutleressayprize.com/how-to-enter) for more details.

**Deadline 4 September 2020**

### **The 2020 National Poetry Competition**

is one of the world's most prestigious prizes for an unpublished poem of up to 40 lines, on any topic.

1<sup>st</sup> prize £5,000, 2<sup>nd</sup> £2,000, 3<sup>rd</sup> £1,000 Entry £7 for one poem, extras £4. Details online : [poetrysociety.org.uk/competitions/national-poetry-competition/](http://poetrysociety.org.uk/competitions/national-poetry-competition/)

**Deadline 31 October 2020**

### **Cannon Poets Sonnet or Not 2020 Poetry Competition**

Submit poems exactly 14 lines long. 1<sup>st</sup> prize £500, 2<sup>nd</sup> £250, 3<sup>rd</sup> £150. Entry £5 for one poem, £2.50 for extras. See details here: [www.cannonpoets.org.uk/](http://www.cannonpoets.org.uk/)

### **Writers' Forum Short Story Competition**

invites crime, comedy, romance, thriller, literary, twist in the tail, horror, sci-fi etc. Submit 1,000 – 3,000 words. 1<sup>st</sup> prize £300, 2<sup>nd</sup> £150, 3<sup>rd</sup> £100. Entry fee £6. See more details online at:

[writers-forum.com/competitions/](http://writers-forum.com/competitions/)

**Ongoing**

### **The Oxford Brookes 2020 International Poetry Competition**

invites poetry in two categories: Open and English as an additional language. Winners of each category will receive £1,000 and runners up £200. Entry fee £5 for one poem or £4 per poem for more than three entries. See: [www.brookes.ac.uk/poetry-centre/international-poetry-competition/](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/poetry-centre/international-poetry-competition/) for more details.

**Deadline 14 September 2020**

### **The Kindle Storyteller Award**

is a £20,000 prize recognising outstanding writing. It is open to writers publishing in English in any genre, who publish their work through Kindle Direct Publishing. Readers play a role in selecting the winner, helped by a panel of judges including various book industry experts. Books must be published in the period 1 May 2020 – 31 August 2020 to be eligible. See online: [www.amazon.co.uk/b?ie=UTF8&nnode=12061299031](http://www.amazon.co.uk/b?ie=UTF8&node=12061299031) for details.

**Deadline 31 August 2020.**

### **Green Stories Competition for children's stories**

Submit stories for children that touch on ideas around sustainable society. We consider all genres and entry is free. Stories don't have to be about sustainability or climate change directly but must include green solutions. Categories are:

- Preschool/illustrated books (for 2-6 age group) up to 1,000 words
- Young readers (age 7-11) up to 2,500 words

There is a £200 prize for the winner of each category. Visit:

[www.greenstories.org.uk/stories-for-children/](http://www.greenstories.org.uk/stories-for-children/) for full details.

**Deadline 14 September 2020**

### **Planet Essay Competition**

**2020 Planet: the Welsh Internationalist** is an English-language magazine which offers an independent approach to Wales and the world. We invite entries of essays of 1,500-2,000 words in traditional or unconventional styles from writers aged under 30. 1<sup>st</sup> prize £200. See our website:

[www.planetmagazine.org.uk/competitions](http://www.planetmagazine.org.uk/competitions) for more information

**Deadline 1 September 2020**

### **Wirral Poetry Festival Open Weaver Words Literature Festival - Frodsham Flash Fiction Prize**

Submit a bite-sized story of up to 300 words. Entry fee £3. 1<sup>st</sup> prize £300, 2<sup>nd</sup> £150, 3<sup>rd</sup> £50. See online: [www.weaverwords.org.uk/flash-fiction/](http://www.weaverwords.org.uk/flash-fiction/) for more information.

**Deadline 28 February 2021**

### **Manchester Writing Competition**

**Poetry Prize** Submit a portfolio of 3–5 poems on any topic, any style, with a maximum length of no more than 120 lines.

**Fiction Prize** the best short story of up to 2,500 words, on any topic, in any style or form.

**Winner of both prizes receive £10,000.** Entry £18.

Reduced price entries are available to those who might not otherwise be able to enter. See: [www2.mmu.ac.uk/writingcompetition/](http://www2.mmu.ac.uk/writingcompetition/) for more information.

**Deadline 18 September 2020**

### **Reflex Fiction Flash Fiction Competition**

invites stories of 180-360 words, any subject, and in any style or form. Entry £7. 1<sup>st</sup> prize £1,000, 2<sup>nd</sup> £500, 3<sup>rd</sup> £250. Visit our website:

[www.reflexfiction.com/flash-fiction/](http://www.reflexfiction.com/flash-fiction/) for more information.

**Deadline 31 August 2020**

### **Writers Online Dark Tales Short Story Competition**

From creepy spec fic to bleak psychological thrillers, make your story nasty and ghastly! Submit 1,500-1,700 words. The winner receives £200 and publication in Writing Magazine.

Entry fee £6. See our website: [www.writers-online.co.uk/writing-competitions/dark-tales-short-story-competition/](http://www.writers-online.co.uk/writing-competitions/dark-tales-short-story-competition/) for details.

**Deadline 15 August 2020**

### **The Caledonian Novel Award**

invites writers to submit novels in any genre, for adults or young adults. Novels must be at least 50,000 words long. Entry fee £25 per novel. The Award is open to unpublished or self-published novelists only, and the winner receives £1,500. Visit: [thecaledoniannovelaward.com/rules-entry/](http://thecaledoniannovelaward.com/rules-entry/) for more information.

**Deadline 1 November 2020**

## Music & performance

**BBC Cardiff Singer of the World 2021** Singers in the early stages of their careers and no older than 32 by June 2021, can apply for this high-profile competition. Singers from anywhere can take part and entry is free. Winner gets £20,000, runners up £2,500. We also award £10,000 to the winner of Singer of the World Song Prize 2021. UK residents can vote for their favourite contestant, with the winner receiving the Dame Joan Sutherland Audience Prize of £2,500. See our website: [www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b007qn4b](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b007qn4b) for full entry information.  
**Deadline 31 August 2020**

**The Royal Philharmonic Society Inspiration Awards** are for UK-based artists, ensembles and organisations that have inspired us all during lockdown. We invite nominations from the public. Think of what has inspired you since lockdown began. Maybe an individual or group who found a way to perform something truly special online, or to share their music in a new setting to benefit others. Members of the public can make one nomination. See online: [royalphilharmonicsociety.org.uk/awards/rps\\_music\\_awards/inspirati-on-awards](http://royalphilharmonicsociety.org.uk/awards/rps_music_awards/inspirati-on-awards) for more information.  
**Nomination deadline 26 August 2020**

**The 41<sup>st</sup> Young Composer Competition 2020 Frederic Mompou International Award** offers €4,000, publishing and marketing of the winning score, and the first performance of the work. Composers aged up to 35 can enter. The works must not have been previously performed, published or disseminated in any format. The work must be for saxophone and accordion duo. The saxophone can be soprano, contralto or tenor. There is no restriction on style and scoring methods and we recommend a duration 10-18 minutes. Visit our website: [concursfredericmompou.cat/eng/eng.html](http://concursfredericmompou.cat/eng/eng.html) for detailed information.  
**Deadline 18 September 2020**

## **ORA Singers and Tate Modern Emergency Composers' Fund**

will provide work and income for composers during the Covid-19 outbreak. Eight composers will be asked to write reflections of eight different works of art chosen by Tate Modern from their own collection. Selected composers will receive a £1,500 commission to write a new choral work. See: [www.orasingers.co.uk/composers-fund](http://www.orasingers.co.uk/composers-fund) for application details.  
**Deadline 5 September 2020**

## **The Leeds International Piano Competition 2021**

offers a transformative prize package including worldwide management with Askonas Holt, a debut recording with Warner Classics, recitals at London's Wigmore Hall and Southbank, tours of Europe and East Asia, and broadcast opportunities with the BBC. Plus cash awards: **1<sup>st</sup> prize £25,000**, 2<sup>nd</sup> £15,000 and 3<sup>rd</sup> £10,000. To enter this prestigious contest, visit: [www.leedspiano.com/2021-competition/](http://www.leedspiano.com/2021-competition/) for entry details.  
**Deadline 31 October 2020**

## **The Coro Sant Yago Choral Composition Contest**

is open to composers of any nationality. Submit original and unpublished compositions of up to 5 minutes duration, written for a mixed choir SATB a cappella with a reasonable use of divisi. Only texts with a Christmas theme will be considered, written preferably in Valencian, Spanish, Latin or English. The award includes a cash prize of €300 and the premiere of the winning piece. Visit our website: [www.corosantyago.org/Concurso/english](http://www.corosantyago.org/Concurso/english) for detailed information.  
**Deadline 31 August 2020**

## Music & performing arts support

**The Musicians Union** offers advice, guidance and support to members. We aim to protect members' rights and campaign for a fairer music industry. New members can join for £1 and get their first six months free, giving them access to the full range of membership benefits. Find out more about us online at: [www.musiciansunion.org.uk/](http://www.musiciansunion.org.uk/)

## **The Finzi Trust** offers grants to enable financial assistance for:

- music performance
- music publication
- books on music
- music festivals
- further musical education
- purchase of instruments

See website for information:

[www.geraldfinzi.org/grant-giving.html](http://www.geraldfinzi.org/grant-giving.html)

**Deadline 1 September 2020**

## **Help Musicians Financial**

**Hardship Funding** Our second wave of hardship support is for self-employed musicians who do not qualify for Self-Employment Income Support Scheme, and other unemployed musicians who are experiencing significant financial hardship. See online: [www.helpmusicians.org.uk/news/latest-news/applications-now-open-for-phase-2-of-help-musicians-financia](http://www.helpmusicians.org.uk/news/latest-news/applications-now-open-for-phase-2-of-help-musicians-financia) for details.

## **The Michael Tippett Musical Foundation**

supports the development of group music making especially involving young people, with composing central to the project. Grants of £500-£4,000 are awarded. Projects taking place in or out of school, college or university, or in community settings will be considered. Projects involving young composers should indicate how the project will assist their professional development. Visit our website: [www.tippettfoundation.org.uk/html/guidelines.htm](http://www.tippettfoundation.org.uk/html/guidelines.htm) for full details.

**Deadline 30 September 2020**

**The RVW Trust** supports the performance, creation and recording of music by professional British composers of current or recent generations, or those entering the profession. Our priorities are the

performance, recording and promotion of music by neglected or currently unfashionable 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century British composers, including performances by societies and at festivals. We consider applications from individuals, ensembles, organisations and recording companies. Visit: [rvwtrust.org.uk/make-your-application/](http://rvwtrust.org.uk/make-your-application/) for more details.

**Deadline 1 September 2020**

### **British Association for Performing Arts Medicine (BAPAM)**

is an organisation made up of health and arts professionals working together to support the performing arts. We offer essential resources for artists, creative practitioners, teachers and arts industry organisations. Visit our website: [www.bapam.org.uk/](http://www.bapam.org.uk/) to see how we can help you to master a healthy practice, prevent injury and enhance your performance!

### **Dance Professionals Fund**

can help professional dancers, dance teachers, choreographers and choreologists in time of need. To be eligible you must:

- have three years of professional dance performance, teaching or choreography in the UK
- be a practising, former or retired dance professional

See website for full details:

[www.dancefund.org.uk/grants/](http://www.dancefund.org.uk/grants/)

### **The Actors' Children's Trust**

gives grants to help children of professional actors. We also offer advice and support and can help source other funding. Visit: [actorschildren.org/what-we-do/](http://actorschildren.org/what-we-do/) to see if we can help.

### **The Fidelio Charitable Trust**

supports the arts, especially music, including opera, lieder, composition and dance. We support individuals or groups of exceptional ability, for special tuition or coaching, to take part in competitions or specially arranged performances, or to help with a special publication, musical composition or work of art. Applications must be supported by institutions, colleges, arts festivals or other UK arts organisations with the relevant expertise. Visit:

[www.fideliocharitabletrust.org.uk/index.php](http://www.fideliocharitabletrust.org.uk/index.php) for more information.

**Deadline 25 September 2020**

### **The Wrightson Trust**

offers small grants to young people of secondary school age studying music. Assistance varies according to circumstances, with grants ranging between £100 and £800. Visit our website: [wrightsontrust.co.uk/](http://wrightsontrust.co.uk/) for details.

**Deadline 1 September 2020**

## General arts funding

### **The Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust (QEST)**

awards scholarships of up to £18,000 and apprenticeship funding of up to £6,000 for talented and aspiring craftspeople working in a range of skills, from farriery and cheese making to jewellery design, silversmithing and sculpture. We seek well thought out proposals which exemplify excellent British craftsmanship. Applications open 14 July 2020. Please see our website:

[www.gest.org.uk/](http://www.gest.org.uk/) for details.

**Deadline 24 August 2020**

### **The Oppenheim-John Downes Memorial Trust**

offers grants of £250 - £1,000 to British artists, designers, writers and performers aged over 30, who are experiencing financial difficulties in pursuit of their careers. Apply if you work in:

**Visual arts:** painting, sculpture, printmaking, photography, etc

**Crafts:** ceramics, metalwork, glass, woodcarving, textiles, etc

**Music:** musicians, composers and conductors

**Design:** fashion, product design/innovation and work in digital media

**Performing arts:** actors, dancers and other individual performance artists

**Creative writing:** poets, novelists, librettists and others

**Film & digital media**

\*We also consider applications from crafts specialists involved in the restoration and preservation of architectural and cultural artefacts, such as gilders, stone carvers and conservators. Visit: [www.oppenheimdownestrust.org](http://www.oppenheimdownestrust.org) for more information.

**Deadline 3 October 2020**

### **Equity Charitable Trust Welfare Grants**

support industry professionals. You don't have to be an Equity member to apply. One-off welfare grants can help you stem the shortfall when faced with an unforeseen medical, financial or professional event. Find out more online:

[www.equitycharitabletrust.org.uk/financial-help/](http://www.equitycharitabletrust.org.uk/financial-help/)

**Ongoing**

### **The Arts & Culture Impact Fund**

offers secured and unsecured finance in order to achieve several objectives for the arts, cultural and heritage sectors. See our website: [www.artsculturefinance.org/our-funds/cultural-impact-development-fund/](http://www.artsculturefinance.org/our-funds/cultural-impact-development-fund/) for details.

**Ongoing until 2023**

### **The Snowdon Trust**

helps disabled people achieve their goals in education or vocational training towards employment. If you have a physical or sensory disability and are in further or higher education, you can apply for a grant of up to £3,000 to help with additional disability-related costs not fully provided for by statutory funding.

Students of all nationalities may apply but must be studying at a college or university in the UK.

Check our website for details:

[www.snowdontrust.org/grants](http://www.snowdontrust.org/grants)

**Deadline 31 August 2020**

### **The Black Artists Grant**

of £500 is given out monthly to black artists in the UK. The BAG offers no-strings attached support to help artists to make new work, buy equipment or materials, travel, research, visit exhibitions or conferences, or to cover some life expenses. There is no age limit and the grant does not expect any outcomes or reporting. Full details online:

[creativedebuts.co.uk/bag/](http://creativedebuts.co.uk/bag/)

**Ongoing**

### **The Theatres Trust**

offers grants of up to £5,000 to help with urgent building repairs, operational viability, accessibility and environmental improvements. Theatres must be run by a charity or not-for-profit group that can clearly demonstrate the value capital improvements to their theatres would make to their work in communities. Applicants:

- must own/manage theatres
- run a regular theatre programme of professional, community and/or amateur work presenting at least 30 performances a year

For full criteria, please visit:

[www.theatrestrust.org.uk/uk-theatres-small-grants-scheme](http://www.theatrestrust.org.uk/uk-theatres-small-grants-scheme)

**Deadline 5 October 2020**

### **Cheshire Community**

**Foundation & Assura Plc** will award grants of £1,000-£5,000 to charitable organisations who deliver activities and services within 15 miles of an Assura healthcare building (Chelford, Macclesfield, Crewe, Nantwich). Activities must aim to improve mental and emotional health and wellbeing, gain support for life challenges and provide opportunities to learn new skills. For details, visit our website: [cheshirecommunityfoundation.org.uk/apply-for-funding/#grant7](http://cheshirecommunityfoundation.org.uk/apply-for-funding/#grant7)  
**Deadline 14 September 2020**

**The Leche Trust** offers grants of up to £5,000 for performing arts: music, theatre and dance. Applicants must be UK registered charities, public authorities or public institutions. Our priorities for are:

- excellence in professional performance
- production and performance of new work
- development of young professional artists

For more information, visit: [www.lechetrust.org/](http://www.lechetrust.org/)

**Deadline 28 August 2020**

**The Idlewild Trust** awards grants of up to £5,000 to:

**Charities in the arts sector** who improve opportunities for young professionals working in the arts, especially those at an early stage in their careers. Applicants should be delivering high quality and professional work with a strong track record. We also fund projects for other early stage professionals working creatively within the arts, including composers, curators, designers, producers, writers, choreographers, etc.

**Conservation projects** that conserve historic or artistically important objects and works of art including textiles, furniture, metalwork, manuscripts, wall paintings, tombs, stained glass etc. Works must be in museums, galleries, places of worship and historic buildings that are accessible to the public.

For more information, visit: [www.idlewildtrust.org.uk/](http://www.idlewildtrust.org.uk/)

**Deadline 10 September 2020**

### **The Equilibrium Foundation**

offers support for organisations with aims and objectives including those which:

- work in partnership with organisations assisting the disadvantaged
- promote and encourage activities in the arts
- benefit the environment

We operate schemes in Cheshire East, Chester & district, and Greater Manchester. Charities and not-for-profit organisations can apply for grants of £100 - £500 to help support the work they do in these regions. Take a look at our website for details:

[www.eqllp.co.uk/the-foundation/](http://www.eqllp.co.uk/the-foundation/)  
**Deadline 20 September 2020**

### **The D'Oyly Carte Charitable**

**Trust** makes grants of £500 - £5,000 to UK registered charities operating in the fields of arts advancement, health and medical welfare, and environmental protection or improvement. Arts-related benefits include support for:

- increasing opportunities for young people to take part
- access to the arts for elderly people
- performance development opportunities for those in their early career stages
- charities who engage with young people on the fringes of society through music and drama
- promotion of rural crafts and skills in heritage conservation

See the full criteria online at:

[www.doylycartecharitabletrust.org](http://www.doylycartecharitabletrust.org)

**Deadline 8 October 2020**

### **Other resources & events**

**Shape Arts** is a disability-led organisation working to improve access to culture for disabled people. We offer resources:

**To help artists** develop their careers and strengthen their practices. Click on this link: [www.shapearts.org.uk/Pages/New/Category/artist-resources](http://www.shapearts.org.uk/Pages/New/Category/artist-resources)

**For organisations** to be more diverse, accessible and inclusive in working with disabled people: [www.shapearts.org.uk/Pages/New/Category/resources](http://www.shapearts.org.uk/Pages/New/Category/resources)

### **The Space resources and guides**

offer useful help to artists and organisations who want to reach new audiences digitally. Read more about:

- Live streaming
- Audience development
- Digital rights
- Podcasting

See all these resources on our website: [www.thespace.org/](http://www.thespace.org/)

### **The British Council Open**

**View online workshop** is for anyone interested in studying or starting a career in design. Collaborate with others to develop creative initiatives to address humanity's needs at this time. Pitch creative projects with a focus on climate change and a post-Covid world. Final projects will be unveiled to academia, investors and the public. Dates are 13 - 24 July and participation is free. Visit this website: [www.britishcouncil.org/arts/opportunities](http://www.britishcouncil.org/arts/opportunities) for application details.

**\*\*Application deadline:**

**1 July 2020**

### **Government easing of**

**lockdown** This week the PM announced the latest changes in lockdown measures. As part of this, it was confirmed that museums and galleries can reopen from 4 July. Arts Council England are compiling guidance for the sector on their website. This will be updated as and when... Here's the link:

[www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid-19/covid-19-government-guidance](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid-19/covid-19-government-guidance)



**Cheshire West and Chester**

Chainlinks is edited by Maria Owen at Cheshire West & Chester Council. Whilst every care is taken in producing this bulletin, Cheshire West & Chester Council cannot accept any liability for inaccuracies; nor should a listing be taken as a recommendation or endorsement.

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