

**The Matthew Power Literary Reporting Award
Sponsored by the NYU Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute
of New York University's Faculty of Arts and Science**

2025 Eligibility Requirements and Terms of Agreement

Program Summary

What is the competition?

The Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute of New York University's Faculty of Arts and Science ("the Institute") is pleased to announce The Matthew Power Literary Reporting Award to provide the means for promising early-career, creative nonfiction writers to report on an untold story that uncovers truths about the human condition ("the Work").

What is the prize?

The 2025 Matthew Power Literary Reporting Award winner ("the Winner") may be awarded up to twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$12,500). The Winner will receive a six thousand dollar (\$6,000) prize on acceptance of the proposal. The Winner also is eligible to receive an additional three thousand dollars (\$3,000) upon evidence of substantial progress, and an additional three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500) on completion and acceptance of the Work by the December 31, 2025 deadline, provided the Award Selection Committee ("the Committee") judges the Work acceptable. Expenses incurred by the Winner in reporting and writing the Work are the sole responsibility of the Winner.

In addition, the award provides the Winner with full access to New York University's ("NYU") vast library resources. The Winner may also have access to workspace at the Carter Institute's state-of-the-art facility at 20 Cooper Square in the East Village for the duration of the reporting and writing period, space permitting. The Winner will be named a Visiting Scholar at NYU for the duration of the Award period (April – November).

Occasionally we may also offer a runner-up award.

How to apply?

The online-only application is available at: <https://journalism.nyu.edu/poweraward>. The submission deadline is February 19, 2025. The deadline to complete and deliver the final Work is December 31, 2025.

Eligibility Requirements

The Institute expects the Winner's Work to meet a high degree of excellence. While the Matthew Power Literary Reporting Award competition is open to all, with the exceptions noted below, the Institute especially encourages applications from early-career, creative nonfiction writers working on projects that meet the competition's guidelines.

The following persons are not eligible to compete for The Matthew Power Literary Reporting Award:

- Employees, volunteers, interns and agents of NYU, and each of their respective parent companies, affiliates, subsidiaries ("NYU Affiliates")
- NYU graduates with degrees dated within two years of the application deadline

- Journalists holding staff positions at established media outlets that are in a position to fund such projects on their own.

Terms of Agreement

1. Introduction

1.1 These Terms and Conditions (“Competition Rules”) shall be binding on you when entering The Matthew Power Literary Reporting Award competition (“the Competition”) sponsored by NYU Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute of New York University’s Faculty of Arts and Science (“the Institute”).

1.2 These Competition Rules apply to all entrants in the Competition. The Institute may amend them from time to time and will post any changes on the Competition website.

1.3 No fee or payment is necessary to enter the Competition.

1.4 All entry instructions and any other specific details relating to the competition or the prizes form part of these Terms.

1.5 All entries must be received by the Institute by the closing date specified. The Institute does not take any responsibility for any submissions that are illegible, misdirected, lost for technical or other reasons or received after the closing date. Entries should not be considered complete until entrants receive a confirmation email.

2. Eligibility

2.1 The Competition is open to anyone age 21 and older, with the exceptions provided for in this section. The Institute encourages applications from early-career, nonfiction writers whose work will perpetuate the legacy of Matthew Power as detailed in the Competition guidelines.

2.2 Not eligible for the Competition are: NYU Affiliates and their immediate families; NYU graduates receiving degrees dated within two years of the application deadline; and journalists holding staff positions at established media outlets determined by the Committee to be ineligible because they are capable of funding such a project on their own. You may not enter the Competition if, on the day it is announced, you meet any of these criteria. The Institute reserves the absolute right to disqualify any entrant to the Competition whom it deems ineligible according to these criteria.

2.3 Applicants to the Matthew Power Literary Reporting Award may not apply to the NYU Reporting Award in the same year.

2.4 Applicants may only apply once to the Matthew Power Literary Reporting Award in a single year (no multiple applications for multiple proposals).

2.5 All decisions of the Institute regarding eligibility will be final and binding.

3. Liability

3.1 All activities related to the research and writing of the Work are undertaken at the award recipient's own risk. The Winner agrees to release New York University and the Institute, and their officers, trustees, employees and representatives from any and all claims, demands, suits or proceedings of any kind arising out of or connected with the Competition or prizes.

3.2 The Institute shall not be liable for any loss, costs, expenses, damages, liability or injury of any kind arising out of or in any way connected with the Competition or prizes, other than those costs and expenses specifically provided for in the Competition Rules.

3.3 The Institute will not fund proposals to report on armed conflicts or other situations where journalists are already imperiled.

4. Prizes

4.1 The Winner will receive a six thousand dollar (\$6,000) prize on announcement of the winning proposal.

4.2 The Winner will be eligible to receive three thousand dollars (\$3,000) upon evidence of substantial progress, and an additional three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500) on completion and acceptance of the Work by the December 31, 2024, deadline. Acceptance will be determined at the sole discretion of the Committee based upon a determination that the Work meets the level of excellence established by the Committee. An acceptable work in prose, for example, would be expected to probe a subject in depth (4,000 to 6,000 words), bringing new understanding to an important public issue. The Work may require additional reporting and/or editing before it is accepted. The decision of the Committee shall be final and conclusive.

4.3 The Winner will have access to an NYU ID and online and onsite access to NYU Bobst Library research and reference privileges from the start date of the Award until the submission deadline date.

4.4 The Winner will not be deemed to be an NYU employee by virtue of winning the Competition, submitting the Work, or publishing the Work in conjunction with NYU and will not be entitled to any employee benefits from NYU. The Winner will be responsible for the payment of any applicable taxes related to the prize.

4.5 The initial monetary prizes will be provided by check within eight weeks of being awarded. Additional payments to the Winner will be made upon evidence of substantial progress, and again upon acceptance of the finished article.

5. The Work

5.1 The Winner and Runner-Up represent and warrant that all materials submitted for both the Competition entry and the Work are solely his/her own, with the exception of research and fact-checking assistance, and that the Work will not violate or infringe any proprietary right of any third party. The Institute shall have no responsibility for any misstatements or copyright or other proprietary right infringements contained in the Work.

5.2 The Winner and Runner-Up shall retain copyrights to the Work. The Institute shall have second rights to publishing the Work in any media, electronic or printed, as well as indefinite rights to publish the Work on the Institute website and for internal purposes.

5.3 The winner will endeavor to provide credit to the Institute when the Work is published, with language in the bio line. We suggest, "Reporting for this project was made possible in part by the Matthew Power Literary Reporting Award of NYU's Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute."

6. Publicity

6.1 The Institute may use Winner's name, statements, likeness and voice recording in any medium in promotional activities and publicity for the Institute, the Work, and the Competition.

7. Jurisdiction

7.1 These rules shall be governed and construed in accordance with the law of New York without regard to principles of conflict of laws.

7.2 The Institute's failure to enforce any of these Competition rules in any instance(s) will not be construed as a further or continuing waiver of any rules or give rise to any claim by any individual.