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## Call for Manuscript submissions for the 5<sup>th</sup> Round Burt Award for African Literature - Ethiopia Competition

CODE- Ethiopia in partnership with CODE, and with the generous support of Canadian Philanthropist William Bill Burt, is pleased to invite Ethiopian authors to take part in the fifth annual Burt Award for African Literature - Ethiopia competition.

CODE and CODE Ethiopia have been working together for 26 years to support literacy programs in Ethiopia. The Burt Award for African Literature is a literary prize that recognizes excellence in young adult fiction from Africa. The Burt Award is currently offered in Ethiopia, Tanzania, Ghana and Kenya.

### Minimum Criteria for submission

The minimum criteria that a manuscript to be considered eligible,

1. *Authors must be citizens of and resident in Ethiopia.*
2. *Eligible entries must be in manuscripts form. Authors are encouraged to only submit manuscripts that are of the highest quality.*
3. *Manuscripts must be written in English and demonstrate a mastery of the English language.*
4. *Manuscripts must be prose fiction and written in chapter form.*
5. *Manuscripts must contain content and language appropriate for young adults (12-18 years old).*
6. *Manuscripts must be thought provoking and original.*
7. *Manuscripts should be between 80 -120 pages (30,000 to 40,000 words).*
8. *Winners from the 4<sup>th</sup> round are not permitted to submit a manuscript for the current round; they must wait until the following year.*
9. *Manuscripts must be type written double spaced on A-4 sized paper, and set in Times New Roman font size 12. Authors are encouraged to suggest appropriate illustrations for the story.*

### Evaluation criteria

Winning Stories will:-

1. *Have literary merit with a well-developed plot and young engaging characters with whom young readers can identify.*
2. *Demonstrate a solid command of the English language through clear, cohesive language use and proper sentence structure, vocabulary and punctuation.*
3. *Have a strong narrative style and make effective use of imagery, lively dialogue, vivid description and humor or suspense to captivate readers.*
4. *Engage and entertain young readers (12-18 years old), arouse their interest and curiosity and keep them turning pages.*
5. *Reflect current issues and challenges facing young people in Ethiopia*

**Please note that Manuscripts which have the potential to evolve into a series or sequel will be welcome; however, unfinished stories will not be accepted.**

### **Jury Process and the Publication of Winning Books**

Manuscripts will be assessed by a panel of qualified Judges according to the criteria set out above. The Jury will determine a shortlist of titles eligible to win prizes. Shortlisted titles will be further revised and edited by the editors and authors under the guidance of CODE- Ethiopia. The Three prize winning books approved by the Jury and CODE will be published into books. By submitting their manuscripts, the authors agree that the decision of the Jury is final. Prizes will be awarded at an Award Ceremony once the manuscripts are published.

CODE –Ethiopia will distribute copies of the winning books to its network of schools and libraries and will market copies of the books to the general public through book shops. Winning titles could also be eligible for publication internationally in print or digital formats.

### **Prizes for Winning authors**

Winning Authors will be awarded cash prizes and certificates.

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	CAD \$ 9,000.00 (be paid in Birr)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	CAD \$ 7,000.00 (be paid in Birr)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	CAD \$ 5,000.00 (be paid in birr)

### **How to Submit**

All manuscripts must be submitted in electronic and print form to CODE Ethiopia in person on April 30, 2015 before 4:30 P.M. Four printed copies of the manuscript and one electronic version (writeable CD) with a signed covering letter that must include the author's complete contact information, including name address, telephone number and email address. *Writing either the title of the manuscript or any indicating sign /symbol on any part of the manuscript except the letter is forbidden.*

### **Training opportunities:**

A workshop on Creative writing workshop will be conducted. It is planned to be conducted on November 25 & 26, 2014. If you are interested in attending the training, please send your name, full address and CV to CODE-Ethiopia before November 3, 2014. CODE Ethiopia will contact eligible participants for confirmation.

For more information, contact:-

CODE- Ethiopia

P.O.B. 9443

Addis Ababa

Tell - 0913-0039-51

- 0911-61-04-49

- 0915-58-01-01

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