Muse India the literary ejournal

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Muse India Young Writer Award 2026
SUBMISSIONS INVITED

Muse India is a leading literary web journal that showcases Indian Writing in English and regional literatures of India in translation to a global audience. The journal is widely respected for its thematic coverage and distinguished panel of Contributing Editors from across India. Established in 2005 by a group of writers, it has an active membership base of 10,000+ from over 70 countries and attracts 10,000 site visits every month.

Muse India gives National Literary Awards in the following two categories in alternate years**:**

a. **Muse India Young Writer Award** is given to a writer below 35 years of age for an outstanding original work in English or an English translation from any Indian language. The Young Writer Award is **for the original work** and not for the translation. **It will be given for 2026.**

b. **Muse India Translation Award** was given in 2025 and will be given again next year.

Submissions are invited for Muse India – GSP Rao Young Writer Award 2026

THE AWARD:

Young Writer Award carries a cash prize of Rs 25,000 (Rupees Twenty-five thousand) and a Certificate. It will recognise originality and merit in a young writer's work. Further, 3 or 4 other exceptional works will be awarded Jury's Commendation Certificates.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA for Young Writer Award

i. The writer should be an **Indian residing in India or abroad.**
ii. **The Writer should be 35 years of age or younger** as of the date of the published work.
iii. **Only books published in English, or translated into English** from any Indian language, will be eligible. In the case of translations, only the translated work needs to be submitted.
iv. Only works of **fiction** (poetry, short stories, novels, plays, etc.) and **creative non-fiction** (memoirs, biographies, historical fiction, travelogues, etc.) can be submitted for the Award. Academic or research-oriented publications are not eligible. **In case of doubt, please check with the undersigned before submitting.**
v. **Books published during the two years from Jan 1, 2025, to Dec 31, 2026,** by established Indian publishers are eligible.

vi. **E-books** published by reputed publishers will also be eligible. However, you must **submit printed copies of the book**, along with complete details of the Publisher and their website.

vii. **Self-published books** or self-published E-books **will not be eligible**, except those published by reputed publishers.

viii. **Children's books** or those written by children **are not eligible**.

What should be sent:

ix. **2 copies of the book may be submitted** along with **proof of age** of the author through a valid identity card (Passport, Driving license, PAN, etc.). **The author's profile, photo, and contact details should also be submitted.** These can be sent even by email to the undersigned.

x. If the book gets shortlisted for the award, **additional copies of the book will be required**. This will be communicated to the author/publisher.

xi. A covering letter, addressed to the undersigned, must be sent giving details of the books submitted, age proof and profiles and photos of the authors. A copy of the covering letter must be sent along with the books.

JURY

A distinguished panel of judges comprising writers, scholars, and Muse India editors will assess the entries and select the award winner and recipients of Commendation Certificates. Muse India's decision will be final in this regard.

SUBMISSION

Last date for submission – December 15, 2026.
Entries received after this date will not be considered. In special cases of need, a few additional days for submission will be permitted if requested. The consignment should be marked '**Entry for Muse India Young Writer Award**' and include a Covering letter.

Entries must be sent to the following address only, by Speed Post or Courier, and not to the registered office of Muse India.

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