To authors, publishers and sf/fantasy fans,

This set of updated 2020 guidelines has been prepared to help publishers, authors or sf fantasy fans who wish to bring a work of fiction to the attention of the Libertarian Futurist Society (LFS) for consideration for the Prometheus Awards.

If you are aware of a particular work of fiction that might fit the distinctive pro-freedom focus of the Prometheus Awards, we encourage you to bring it to our attention as soon as possible – ideally, at least several months before our annual nominating deadlines. (If possible, we prefer to be notified well before a novel is published, even if advance reading copies aren’t available yet.)

A work is eligible for the Best Novel award if it is:

(1) a unified fictional narrative of at least 40,000 words
(2) published in English between November 1 of the preceding year and December 31 of the current year (for example, between November 1, 2019 and December 31, 2020 for the 2021 award)
(3) generally available through American bookstores or Websites
(4) in one of the fantastic genres, including science fiction, fantasy, scientific or supernatural horror, alternative history, and technothrillers
(5) thematically pro-liberty, whether in terms of general philosophy or of a specific issue

(For a fuller understanding of how we apply these last two criteria, see the Appreciations of past award winners at http://lfs.org/blog.)

Official nominations must be made by LFS members, but if you bring a work to our attention, we will ask LFS members and Prometheus judges to read and evaluate it as a possible nominee. (Submissions by non-members are not considered to be nominations; please do not announce them as such.)

To make sure we have time for this evaluation, and for reading of a nominated work by a committee of Prometheus Award finalist judges, please bring possible nominees to our attention as early as possible, and no later than early January of the year when the award will be given.
Please include the following information with your emailed submission:
• Title (full title, with no abbreviations)
• Author(s)
• Publisher
• Publication date (month and year, if specific date isn’t available)
• Contact information (if you can, please find and include the publisher’s Website, email address, publicist’s name/email and phone number; and/or the author’s email, blog, or Website)
  * Brief description of the work (i.e. describe its sf or fantasy setting, the story, characters, and theme)
  * Who you are (and your relationship to the author, if any)
  * Why you believe this work fits the Prometheus Awards, with its distinctive focus on outstanding sf/fantasy that dramatizes pro-freedom, libertarian, or anti-authoritarian themes

Submissions in the Best Novel category should be sent to Michael Grossberg (bestnovel@lfs.org), chair, LFS Prometheus Best Novel Finalist Judging Committee.

Works other than novels may be proposed for a Special Award (SpecialAward@lfs.org)

Once you submit your suggestion, LFS members will reply and confirm that we’ve received it (usually within one or two days.)

Thank you for bringing potential award winners to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Grossberg
(LFS co-founder; chair, Prometheus Best Novel finalist judging committee)
William H. Stoddard
(LFS president; chair, Prometheus Classic Fiction finalist judging committee)