

Shaikh Zayed Book Award receives 150 nominations

ABU DHABI — The Shaikh Zayed Book Award has, so far received 150 nominations, across all of its nine categories since it opened in May. Nominations for the 2015-16 Shaikh Zayed Book Award will remain open until September 30, 2015, with application forms available for download from the award's website.

Once completed and signed, the forms should be submitted to the Shaikh Zayed Book Award offices along with the candidate's resume, passport copy, personal photo and five copies of the nominated work.

Applicants for the Cultural Personality of the Year Award will be nominated by academic, research and cultural institutions, literary associations and universities or by three intellectually and culturally prominent figures.

For the other eight categories, applicants are requested to complete the nomination form in person.

All nominated works must have been published in the last two years and not previously awarded an international prize. The work must be in Arabic, except for works nominated for the Translation Award (translated either from, or to, Arabic), and the works nominated for the newly devised Arabic Culture in Other Languages category — which can be in English, French or Portuguese.

Once the nomination phase closes, the reading panels will commence their activities for a three-day period, followed by the award's judging panels, which will assess and evaluate the filtered works across all categories.

The Shaikh Zayed Book Award's first edition was held in 2007, and was introduced to promote scholarship and creativity in Arab culture. It carries cash prizes worth Dh7 million — with Dh750,000 per winner in all eight categories, including the Arab Culture in non-Arabic languages category. The winners will also receive a certificate of merit and a gold medal. — *Wam*