Announcing the Khyentse Foundation Children’s Book Prize

With a shared vision to inspire and educate the next generation, and to encourage the development of Buddhist resources for parents and children, Khyentse Foundation and Bala Kids (Shambhala Publications’ new children’s imprint) are teaming up to offer a prize for the best Buddhist children’s manuscript. Submissions of exceptional stories for children ages 0–8, both fiction and non-fiction, from all Buddhist traditions, are warmly welcomed, and new authors are especially encouraged to apply. The winning submission will receive a prize of $5,000 and will be offered a publishing contract from Bala Kids.

Submission Guidelines:

• **Content:** Any complete manuscript in English for a picture book for children ages 0-8, expressing Buddhist values, themes, and traditions, is welcome. Submissions on secular mindfulness, meditation, or yoga will not be considered for this award.

• **Format:** The book should be conceived as a full color, full size standard children’s picture book (not board book). The exact trim size and page number will depend on the content and will be determined by the publisher, but generally the book should be conceived as ranging between 24 and 48 pages.

• **Illustrations:** The prize is offered for the manuscript itself, which may or may not be submitted with illustrations, though submission of illustrations (with permissions cleared) is encouraged. Choosing the final illustrations for the book will be the responsibility of the publisher.

• **Consideration:** All submissions will be reviewed by both Khyentse Foundation and Bala Kids, and will be assessed based on their creativity, message, and significance. It is possible that Bala Kids will be willing to make publication offers to multiple submissions, however, the Children’s Book Prize will be awarded to only one recipient. If there are no submissions that meet the standards of Khyentse Foundation and Bala Kids, the prize will be withheld until there is a new round of open submissions.

• **Contract:** The winner of the prize will be offered a publishing contract by Bala Kids. All terms and conditions of the contract offer will be worked out directly between the author(s) and the publisher. Khyentse Foundation will not be directly involved in this process.

How to Submit:

All manuscripts along with accompanying illustrations should be submitted with a cover letter that includes a short author biography, book summary, and the intended message of the book. Please e-mail all submissions to balakids@shambhala.com with the subject line: KF Book Prize Submission.

The winning author will be notified by May 15, 2018.

Closing date: **February 15, 2018**

Prize award: **$5,000 and publication offer with Bala Kids**

Bala Kids, the new children’s imprint of Shambhala Publications, is dedicated to inspiring the next generation through the Buddhist values of wisdom and compassion.

Khyentse Foundation is a nonprofit organization founded in 2001 by Dzongsar Khyentse Rinpoche to support all traditions of Buddhist study and practice.

[http://www.khyentsefoundation.org](http://www.khyentsefoundation.org)