**Anniversary 30th LGBTQI+ Emerging Writer Commissions**

**Commission Eligibility Criteria**

* The 30th Anniversary LGBTQI+ Emerging Writer Commissions are open to London-based LGBTQI+ writers aged 18 and over.
* By emerging we mean:
  + You do not currently have a literary agent representing you
  + You do not have an existing book contract with a publisher
  + You have not previously published a full-length work (i.e.: a work of fiction or non-fiction over 30,000 words, or ten or more short stories published either in a collection or individually, or twenty or more poems either in a collection or published individually, or a full-length theatre script, screenplay, or radio play that has been professionally produced and/or broadcast)
* We particularly welcome entries from LGBTQI+ writers from the following communities:
  + Trans
  + Black, Asian, Global Majority
  + Having a Working Class upbringing
  + D/deaf and/ or disabled
* Entrants are writers writing in poetry, fiction and/ or narrative non-fiction.

**Commission Terms and Conditions**

* Entries submitted should be original work and must be in English.
* You should not use generative AI in producing any part of your submission.
* Entrants can apply to the commission online.
* Due to the volume of entries expected, Spread the Word is unable to provide feedback for any entries. We hope you understand and are sorry to not be able to provide this.
* Entries can be submitted from 9am, Tuesday 8 July 2025. The closing date for entries is 1pm, Tuesday 19 August 2025.
* The judges’ decisions are final, and no correspondence about their decisions will be entered into. Spread the Word reserve the right to change the panel of judges without notice.
* Selected writers will contracted by Spread the Word to undertake a writing commission as per the commission brief.
* There is no theme which the work has to respond to.
* If you are applying to develop existing work, this work cannot have previously been published or produced.
* The commission development period will run from September 2025 to November 2025. The commissioned work will be showcased as part of Spread the Word’s 30th Anniversary celebrations.
* An access fund is in place to make reasonable adjustments.
* Copyright of all commissioned work will remain with the author.
* Spread the Word will reserve the right to publish the commissioned works on their website and/ or in print.
* Commissioned writers will each receive:
  + £1,500 commission fee
  + Access to commission activation budget
  + Two sessions with a mentor
  + One to one development and production support from Spread the Word
  + Publication of their work online
  + A platform to showcase their work to an audience at a Spread the Word 30th Anniversary sharing event
* Commissioned writers will be expected to:
  + Produce a piece of previously unpublished work
  + Meet project deadlines
  + Showcase the commissioned work as part of Spread the Word’s 30th Anniversary commissions
  + Take part in a panel discussion as part of a 30th Anniversary sharing event about your work, creative practice and the process of being commissioned
  + Support the promotion of the completed commissions
* There may be extenuating circumstances that render the dates and timelines in this document flexible. Spread the Word reserve the right to alter these dates should it be necessary for any reason.
* Spread the Word reserve the right not to award any of the stated commissions if there are insufficient submissions and/or if entries are not taken forward by the judges.
* Submission of an application to this commission will be taken to mean acceptance of these terms and conditions. Entries that fail to comply with these rules may be disqualified.

If you have a question about the commissions which is not answered here or on the commission webpage, please email: [hello@spreadtheword.org.uk](mailto:hello@spreadtheword.org.uk)