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 **Floris Books**

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Winners Announced for Kelpies Prizes for Writing and Illustration 2020

Edinburgh-based publisher Floris Books will announce the winners of the Kelpies Prizes for Writing and Illustration at a virtual award ceremony tonight. The announcement comes almost a year later than originally planned due to Covid.

Jude Reid, a consultant surgeon based in Glasgow, will win the Kelpies Prize for Writing thanks to her assured and engaging characterisation, involving plot, and perfectly pitched tone for middle grade readers. The judges were drawn in by her ability to write both adventure and emotion with equal skill, and loved her idea for a fantastical mystery story about a secret organisation responsible for guiding the souls of drowned sailors safely home.

Leanne Goodall, a student from Argyll and Bute, will win the Kelpies Prize for Illustration with a series of atmospheric depictions of iconic Scottish myths and legends. The judges were wowed by the beautiful renderings of Scottish landscapes, and the fluid movement captured in the compositions, and the sense of magic and wonder captured in Leanne's work.

The Kelpies Prizes, administered by the largest children's publisher in Scotland, aims to develop and nurture talent in Scotland. Entrants were asked to provide a selection of writing samples or illustrations suitable for a children's book.

The judges of both prizes were delighted to receive an extremely high standard of entries, and the judging process was definitely a high point of their lockdown! Winners will each receive 9 months of mentoring with Floris Books, along with consideration for a publishing deal and £500 cash.

About the Prizes

The Kelpies Prize for Writing was first awarded in 2005 with support from the Scottish Arts Council, now Creative Scotland, and seeks to encourage and reward Scottish writing for children. Previous winners include Scottish Children's Book Award winners Janis Mackay and Alex McCall, and the prize also launched the careers of Kindle bestseller Daniela Sacerdoti and multi-award-winning Lari Don.

The Kelpies Prize for Illustration was launched in 2014 as the Kelpies Design & Illustration Prize, with the aim of discovering new Scottish talent in cover design. Kelpies Illustration Prize entrants have gone on to work with Floris Books on projects including [A Secret Diary of the First World War](#) (Darren Gate, 2016 winner) and [The Legend of the First Unicorn](#) (Nataša Ilinčić, 2017 shortlist).

Notes for Editors

1. Floris Books is an independent publisher based in Edinburgh. Established over 40 years ago, it is the largest children's publisher in Scotland and winner of the Saltire Society Scottish Publisher of the Year 2016.
2. The Kelpies imprint has been published by Floris Books since 2002 and features quality Scottish books for tots to teens.
3. The winners of the Kelpies Prizes for Writing and Illustration 2020 will be announced on Thursday 13th May 2021. We hope to open entries for 2022 in the autumn.

More Information

More information from Kirsten Graham, Marketing Campaigns Executive, Floris Books
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