



J.H. MacDermot Writing Awards

Terms of Reference

Purpose

The J.H. MacDermot Writing Awards are made up of the J.H. MacDermot Prize for Excellence in Medical Journalism (Independent) and the J.H. MacDermot Prize for Excellence in Medical Journalism (Mentored). The awards recognize the best articles written by medical students in British Columbia and published by the *BC Medical Journal*. By providing the J.H. MacDermot Writing Awards, the *BCMJJ* aims to foster and encourage excellence in medical writing.

The awards honor Dr John Henry MacDermot (1883–1969), who became the editor of the *Vancouver Medical Bulletin* at its formation in 1924, remaining at the helm until 1959, when it became the *BCMJJ*. Dr MacDermot was editor of the *BCMJJ* until he retired in 1967, and was also a past president of the Vancouver Medical Association and the then-BC Medical Association.

J.H. MacDermot Prize for Excellence in Medical Journalism (Independent)	J.H. MacDermot Prize for Excellence in Medical Journalism (Mentored)
<p>The prize recognizes a BC medical student’s significant achievement in writing an article without any physician coauthors. The student may have received feedback or advice from a physician, but the degree of feedback should be below the threshold of coauthorship, as defined on our Certification of authorship form. The article may have multiple student coauthors.</p> <p>The prize is \$750 and recognition in the <i>BCMJJ</i>.</p> <p>The winner is selected from all eligible articles published in the <i>BCMJJ</i> in a calendar year.</p> <p>Eligibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author must have been a medical student at the University of British Columbia at the time the article was written and submitted. <p>Judging criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Was the article submitted and presented in a professional manner, according to the <i>BCMJJ</i> Guidelines for Authors? Is it original? Is it significant? Is the writing clear and persuasive? 	<p>The prize recognizes a BC medical student’s significant achievement in medical writing as part of an author team that includes physicians.</p> <p>The prize is \$750 and recognition in the <i>BCMJJ</i>.</p> <p>The winner is selected from all eligible articles published in the <i>BCMJJ</i> in a calendar year.</p> <p>Eligibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student author must have been a medical student at the University of British Columbia at the time the article was written and submitted. The student author must qualify for authorship as defined on our Certification of authorship form and be named as an author on the article. <p>Judging criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Was the article submitted and presented in a professional manner, according to the <i>BCMJJ</i> Guidelines for Authors? Is it original? Is it significant? Is the writing clear and persuasive?

Selection committee and process

The selection of the winners will be made by the Editor and/or the Editor and a subcommittee of the *BCMJJ* Editorial Board or designate. All eligible medical student articles and essays published in the *BCMJJ* will be considered. There is no need to apply or be nominated.

If a winning entry in either category was written by more than one BC medical student, the prize will be divided equally among the student authors.

The award is presented at the Doctors of BC annual awards ceremony. The Editorial Board is under no obligation to offer either award in any given year.

For more information, email journal@doctorsofbc.ca.