

2026 CALL FOR ENTRIES

DOUGLAS DILLON AWARD

*for Books of Distinction on the
Practice of American Diplomacy*



Since 1995, the American Academy of Diplomacy has celebrated distinguished writing about US diplomatic efforts and achievements with its annual Douglas Dillon Award for a Book of Distinction on the Practice of American Diplomacy. Last year, the prize went to *Dealing with Dragons, Bears, and Some Nice People Too: A Diplomatic Chronicle* by B. Lynn Pascoe, published by New Academia Publishing/Vellum.

The deadline for submission of nominations for this year's award is **July 13, 2026** but **early submissions are strongly encouraged**. A committee of Academy members will review nominated books and determine the winner, with concurrence by the Academy's Board of Directors. The award for the winning entry this year includes a cash prize of \$5,000. The awards are customarily presented at the Academy's Annual Awards Luncheon ceremony in the late fall/early winter.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Submitted books must meet the following four criteria to be accepted for consideration: (1) The book is written by an American citizen, (2) the book is published in the U.S., (3) the book is published within the period of July 1, 2025 to July 1, 2026 and (4) the focus of the book fits within the thematic scope described below.

In selecting the winner, the Academy seeks to honor books, and their authors, dealing with the practice of American diplomacy with emphasis on the way US foreign policy is developed and carried out, rather than international theory, studies of broad foreign policy issues, or analyses of intelligence and security operations. Biographies, autobiographies, and personal memoirs that relate to diplomatic practice and process are welcome. Both official diplomatic relations between governments and non-official "Track Two" and other activities that supplement government-to-government diplomacy fall within the scope of this competition. We are particularly interested in books that focus on the opportunities diplomacy offers as well as its limitations.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1: Mail Hard Copies (Required)

To submit a title for consideration, publishers should **mail six (6) published copies of the nominated book** to the following address:

American Academy of Diplomacy
Attn: Maria Reissaus
1101 17th Street, NW Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone: 202-331-3721

Step 2: Submit Digital Copy (Highly recommended)

In addition to hard copies, the Academy strongly encourages publishers to submit a digital copy of the nominated title (e.g., PDF, Kindle or e-book formats) to help facilitate the review process by Book Committee members. It can be emailed to:

mreissaus@academyofdiplomacy.org

Digital copies are only shared with Book Committee members. If the publisher's internal policies require a watermark on a digital submission, we ask that you add it in such a way that does not inhibit reading.

ABOUT THE ACADEMY

The American Academy of Diplomacy is a nonprofit organization whose members, while in government service, held senior policy positions related to the conduct of US foreign relations. They are men and women, both career and non-career, who held major diplomatic posts abroad and high-level foreign policy responsibilities in Washington. Among them are five former Secretaries of State. The Academy works to encourage the highest standards of qualification for, and performance in, the conduct of American diplomacy, and to enhance public understanding of and appreciation for the contributions of diplomacy to our national interest.