PRESS RELEASE
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HOT KEY BOOKS LAUNCHES WRITING PRIZE WITH THE GUARDIAN

The Guardian and Hot Key Books are launching a search for the next generation of writers of children's fiction with the Guardian Hot Key Books Young Writers Prize.

Hot Key Books is looking for new young writers between the ages of 18 and 25, who write in either of two categories: for ages 9-12 or 13-19. Entrants should be unpublished talents new to the literary world that are passionate about writing for children. The winners, one for each age category, will be selected by a panel of judges who will consult with school children. Each winner will be given editorial support and the chance to be published by Hot Key Books.

A judging panel comprising of representatives from the Guardian, Hot Key Books, booksellers, school children and authors representing both age groups will be announced at the end of April. Submissions of partial manuscripts will open on 30 April and close on 31 May, with a second stage of full manuscripts in October. The winners will be announced at London Book Fair 2013. Full terms and conditions will be published shortly. For more information visit www.hotkeybooks.com.

Sarah Odedina, Managing Director of Hot Key Books says: "*We are delighted to be working with the Guardian on this literary prize. Hot Key Books is committed to publishing the best authors and this competition helps us in searching for exciting new talent for the future*."

Claire Armitstead, Books Editor for the Guardian and Observer says: *"We wanted a special project to celebrate the first anniversary of our children's books website and what could be better than helping to find the next generation of children's writers. We're thrilled to be involved in a competition that looks to the future of children's literature."*

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Notes to Editors

About Hot Key Books
Hot Key Books, part of Bonnier Group, will be a top quality, strongly commercial and diverse fiction list, and a major player in children's publishing. The company name derives from the power of stories to open doors and feed the imagination of readers. Hot Key Books seeks to unlock the power of reading, a love of books and a joy of stories for readers of all ages. It also reflects the digital age in which we now live through its association with 'hot key' commands - the short cut command on a keyboard.

About Bonnier Publishing

Bonnier Publishing is a rapidly growing children's publisher based in the UK, with offices in Australia and France. It is owned by Bonnier Books, which is a top 20 world publisher with a turnover of £600m. Bonnier Publishing is primarily the English language arm of Bonnier Books and it currently comprises of children's publishers Templar, Autumn, Five Mile Press, Weldon Owen, Piccolia in France and the newly launched Hot Key Books. Bonnier Publishing was named a Top 5 Climber in The Bookseller's Independent Children's Publisher list in 2011.