

BIENNIAL ANDA PRIZE FOR ENGLISH LITERATURE

Third Edition

In a world that is increasingly viewing research as a merely operational, economistic and applicative tool, the Associazione Nazionale Docenti di Anglistica (ANDA) believes it is essential to promote scientific research on English literature, Anglophone literatures and cultural studies.

The exploration of literature stands as a cornerstone of human existence, as it encompasses the vital aspects of life and culture that can motivate new generations to engage with their inner selves and the essence of humanity. Literature encourages reflections on life's profound questions and offers a fresh perspective on the seemingly "small" daily experiences that shape our existence in the world. These vital aspects of our socio-cultural history are increasingly overlooked in a society that often prioritises profit over other values. As Martha Nussbaum poignantly argues in Not for Profit (2011), it is crucial to place humanistic culture at the heart of every sphere, language, and culture globally, since the health of democracies depends on literature.

The interplay between history, ontology, science, religion, and politics is always significant and researchers must engage with these themes in their work; otherwise, their research may lack depth and fail to address the essence of the subject matter, reducing it merely to measurable and quantifiable parameters.

Established in 2018, the biennial ANDA prize is a recognition to those who have significantly advanced the study of literature through their publications. Every literary and creative word, in every language, prompts us to interiorise it and renew it, and, while we utter it, to transform ourselves; otherwise, it is a dead word, a scientistic term, merely an object of "study" (Panikkar). For this reason, it is essential to keep the study of literatures and cultures alive, both in our everyday life and as part of our university and school curricula.

Every two years ANDA awards the scholars who contribute to research on Anglophone literature with distinguished works of scientific and cultural excellence.

The prizes will be awarded for the following:

- Best unpublished essay, either in Italian or in English; if requested by the author, the essay may be included (subject to peer review) in the A-rated journal *Le Simplegadi*;
- Best published piece of research in the field of Anglophone literature (article, book chapter, contribution to conference proceedings, monograph, or critical edition), written either in Italian or in English and published in 2023-2024.

Submissions will be judged by a panel of referees consisting of internationally renowned scholars appointed by the Steering Committee of the Association (the members of the Committee cannot be part of the panel). Submissions will be assessed based on their scientific and methodological soundness, their originality, and their impact on the study of Anglophone literature.

To enter the prize, please submit a copy of your unpublished essay or the editorial PDF of your published essay or volume. This submission must be sent, along with a curriculum vitae featuring your personal details, by December 31, 2024, to the ANDA Secretary, Loredana Salis (lsalis@uniss.it), who will ensure that the materials are forwarded to the referees for final evaluation.

Winners will be notified no later than 31 July 2025. The prizes will be awarded during the ANDA Conference that will be held at the University of Salento (Lecce) from 26-27 September 2025 (further details about the event will be circulated on the ANDA website and the mailing list of the Association).

The winners will receive a scroll explaining the panel's reasons for awarding the prize.

The ANDA President, Antonella Riem

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