

ASF TRANSLATION COMPETITION 2025 OPENS

New York, NY—The American-Scandinavian Foundation has announced the opening of its 45th annual competition for outstanding translations of poetry, fiction, drama, or literary prose written by a 20th or 21st-century author from the Nordic region (Denmark, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Finland, Norway, Sweden, and Sápmi).

Four prizes will be awarded this year: the **Nadia Christensen Prize**, which recognizes an outstanding translation of a literary text from a Nordic language into English and includes a \$2,500 award; the **Leif and Inger Sjöberg Prize**, which recognizes distinguished effort by an individual whose literary translations from a Nordic language have not previously been published and includes a \$2,000 award; the **Wigeland Prize**, which recognizes the best translation from Norwegian by a Norwegian and includes a \$2,000 award; and The **Inger and Jens Bruun Translation Prize**, supported by Scan Design Foundation, which recognizes the best Danish translation and includes a \$2,000 award. All four prize recipients will also have an excerpt of their translations published in *Scandinavian Review* (ASF's illustrated journal) and will receive a commemorative bronze medallion.

The 2025 Translation Prize Competition is open through **September 15, 2025**.

To read the guidelines and apply, [please click here](#).

2024 TRANSLATION PRIZE WINNERS: RACHEL RANKIN, WENDY GABRIELSEN, and HAZEL EVANS



—IMAGE— WENDY GRABRIELSEN (LEFT) AWARDED THE 2024 WIGELAND PRIZE; HAZEL EVANS (MIDDLE) AWARDED THE 2024 INGER AND JENS BRUUN TRANSLATION PRIZE, SUPPORTED BY SCAN DESIGN FOUNDATION; RACHEL RANKIN (RIGHT), AWARDED THE 2024 NADIA CHRISTENSEN PRIZE

The 2024 Nadia Christensen Prize was awarded to Rachel Rankin (Edinburgh, UK) for her translation from Norwegian of Karoline Brændjord's *Jeg vil våkne til verden* (*I Want to Wake Up to the World*). The judges praised her translation for effortlessly producing “the original narrator’s delicate, understated balance of gripping physical images and a dialogue with the surrounding nature, with a child’s quiet, gentle acceptance of facing a power that she is trying to learn to understand: pain.” Rankin is a poet, translator, and researcher based in Edinburgh, Scotland. She holds a PhD in Scandinavian Studies from the University of Edinburgh where her dissertation research focused on methods of translating different styles of Norwegian poetry into English. She currently teaches Norwegian language classes at Durham University.

The 2024 Wigeland Prize was awarded to Wendy Gabrielsen for her translation excerpt from Norwegian of Monica Goksøy's *Slemme jenter* (*Bad Girls*). The judges praised her translation for convincingly rendering the “young author’s subtle metaphors, insightful observations, and linguistic tension in English.” Gabrielsen

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grew up in London, but now resides in Oslo, where she runs her own translation, proofreading, and copy-editing business. She obtained a BA in French from the University of Bristol in 1986 and her MA in Translation from the University of Surrey in 1987. A recipient of the 2022 Wigeland Prize, Gabrielsen is now a member of the Norwegian Non-Fiction Writers and Translators Association as well as the Norwegian Association of Literary Translators.

The 2024 Inger and Jens Bruun Translation Prize, supported by the Scan Design Foundation, was awarded to Hazel Evans for her translation excerpt from Danish of Rasmus Daugbjerg's *Trold (Troll)*. The judges praised her translation for emphasizing “the unsettling nature of this fable employing evocative language, rhythmical repetition, and confidently spare syntax to embody the almost childlike wrath of the titular troll.” Evans is a Danish-to-English translator based in Aarhus, Denmark. Her first book-length translation was *Into a Star* by Puk Qvortrup (Hamish Hamilton, 2024), and her forthcoming translation is *Troll* by Rasmus Daugbjerg (Penguin Press, 2025).

TRANSLATION PRIZE 2024 HONORABLE MENTION: MIRIAM ÅKERVALL

Due to an unusually strong group of entries submitted during the 2024 Translation Prize Competition, the Jury awarded an Honorable Mention Certificate for the Nadia Christensen Prize to Miriam Åkervall (Moscow, ID) for her translation from Swedish of excerpts from Marie Lundqvist's prose poetry collection *Astrakanerna (Garden of the Dead)*. The Jury commended her translation for having “rendered a translation with its own life and energy, and recreated these sensual, often surreal reflections on death in equally evocative versions in the English.” In 2015, Åkervall obtained her BA in Environmental Studies at the University of Michigan, and she is currently an MFA candidate in Poetry at the University of Idaho. She has received numerous awards, including in 2024, the Academy of American Poets University Prize, the Vermont Studio Center Fellowship in Translation, and an American Literary Translators Association Mentorship.

The American-Scandinavian Foundation is a publicly supported American nonprofit organization that promotes intellectual and creative exchange between the United States and the five Nordic countries.

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