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For immediate release:

MANCHESTER  
BLOG AWARDS

## **2011 Manchester Blog Awards now open for nominations**

Bloggers, readers and members of the public are invited to visit the Manchester Blog Awards website at [manchesterblogawards.com](http://manchesterblogawards.com) and submit their nominations in the following categories: Best Writing, Best Arts and Culture Blog, Best City or Neighbourhood Blog, Best New Blog and Best Personal Blog.

Now in its sixth year, the annual awards recognise the best of Manchester's online writing. Eligible blogs submitted by the close of nominations on September 18 will be narrowed down to a shortlist in each category. This year the public will again be able to vote on their choices, then the results of public voting will be tallied together with the choices of a judging panel to determine the winners. The full list of winners will be announced at the Blog Awards evening event on October 19, 2011 at The Deaf Institute, Manchester (part of Manchester Literature Festival).

This year's event will take place on the evening of Wednesday, October 19. Socrates Adams will read from his forthcoming novel, *Everything's Fine* (Transmission Print), and talk about blogging and writing. There will be readings from the winners of The Real Story creative nonfiction competition, and from the best and brightest of the city's bloggers, stepping out from behind their screens for one night only. For booking information, please visit our website at [manchesterblogawards.com](http://manchesterblogawards.com)

For the latest updates on the Manchester Blog Awards, subscribe via our website at [manchesterblogawards.com](http://manchesterblogawards.com), or follow us on Twitter at [@mcrblogawards](https://twitter.com/mcrblogawards).

Logos can be downloaded from the press section of our website. For more information email [info@manchesterblogawards.com](mailto:info@manchesterblogawards.com), or phone MBA Director Kate Feld on 07960 285891.

### Background:

Each year, the Manchester Blog Awards celebrates the best self-published online writing in the city. Since the first event at Urbis in 2006, the blog awards has significantly contributed to Manchester's image within the UK and internationally as a city on the digital cutting edge, and as a place where ordinary people are engaging with technology in creative ways. It also helped establish a lively DIY writing and live literature scene in the city, one which is still flourishing today.

Five previous Manchester Blog Award winners have gone on to get book contracts, others have subsequently had their writing featured in national newspapers and media outlets. Each of these writers acknowledges the profile-raising power of the blog awards as a benefit to their work.

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