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2008 OHIOANA AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Columbus, OH – September 23, 2008. . . .The Ohioana Library Association announces the 16 recipients of the 2008 Ohioana Awards. Linda Hengst, executive director of the Ohioana Library, stated, “We are proud to be able to recognize such creative and talented individuals. They each have made significant contributions to the literary and artistic life of Ohio.”

Artist **Queen Books**, a life-long resident of Columbus and community activist for the arts, will receive the **2008 Ohioana Career Award**. Brooks, a nationally celebrated artist whose work has appeared in *Essence* magazine and the *International Review of African Art* as well as other publications, holds a BFA and MFA from The Ohio State University. She has taught at The Ohio State University, Otterbein College, and Ohio Dominican. She is a founding member of ACE (Art for Community Enrichments) and works for FACE (Friends of Art for Community Enrichments) and Days for Creation. The **Ohioana Career Award** is given to an Ohio native for a lifetime of service to the arts and humanities.

Annetta L. Gomez-Jefferson, a long-time resident of Wooster, Ohio, will receive the **2008 Ohioana Pegasus Award**, which is given for unique and outstanding achievements. There are several areas of Gomez-Jefferson’s life and work where her influence and contributions have been especially profound. They are in the fields of education, civil rights, and the performing and literary arts – and these areas frequently overlap.

The recipients of the Ohioana Book Awards, Ohioana Citations and Named Awards are listed below (a detailed profile of each award recipient and digital photo are available on our website at – www.ohioana.org or by contacting Ohioana).

Ohioana Book Awards—awarded for fiction, nonfiction, poetry, juvenile books, and books about Ohio or Ohioans.

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Fiction: *Coal Black Horse* by **Robert Olmstead**, Delaware, OH resident and Ohio Wesleyan University Professor.

Nonfiction: *Savage Peace: Hope and Fear in America 1919* by **Ann Hagedorn**, Dayton native and current resident of Ripley, OH.

Poetry: *Crossing to Sunlight Revisited* by **Paul Zimmer**, a Canton, OH native who now makes his home in Soldiers Grove, WI.

Juvenile Literature: *Uprising* by **Margaret Peterson Haddix**, who grew up near Washington Court House and currently makes her home in Powell, OH.

About Ohio/Ohioans: *George Bellows: An Artist in Action* by **Mary Sayre Haverstock**, a long-time Oberlin, OH resident and an expert on Ohio artists. The introduction to this book was written by Nannette V. Maciejunes, the executive director of the Columbus Museum of Art.

Ohioana Citations—awarded for distinguished service in specific fields or areas of the arts and humanities.

Ted Rall, a native of Cambridge MA who grew up in Kettering, OH – **Art and Journalism**

Julie Zickefoose, a native of Sioux Fall, SD, has made Whipple, OH her home since 1992 – **Art, Writing, and Commentary**.

Chip Davis, a native of Sylvania, OH, founder of Mannheim Steamroller, who currently lives in Omaha, Nebraska - **Music**.

Lisa Watts, a Cleveland, OH native who currently lives in Greensboro, NC, and Editor of *Good Roots: Writers Reflect on Growing Up in Ohio*, will receive the Ohioana's first Ohioana – **Ohio Legacy Citation**.

Named Awards—endowed awards for individuals' contributions to children's literature, poetry, editorial excellence and for a writer under 30 who has yet to publish a book.

Ohioana Alice Louise Wood Memorial Award for Children's Literature

Sharon Creech, a Cleveland, OH native and author of more than fourteen books for young people.

Ohioana Helen and Laura Krout Memorial Poetry Award

Philip Brady, a New York City native has made his home in Youngstown, OH since 1990.

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Ohioana James P. Barry Award for Editorial Excellence

FIELD: Contemporary Poetry and Poetics, published by Oberlin College, Editors David Young and David Walker, of Oberlin, OH.

Ohioana Walter Rumsey Marvin Grant

Nicholas Kowalczyk, a native of Lorain, OH, who is currently teaching at the University of Iowa.

The Ohioana Awards will be presented at the Ohioana Day celebration on Saturday, Oct. 18, 2008, at the Statehouse Atrium located in the State Capitol Square. The luncheon and awards ceremony begins at 11:30 a.m., preceded by the 79th annual meeting at 10 a.m. and a reception/book fair at 11 a.m. The event, celebrating the 67th anniversary of the Ohioana Awards, is open to the public; however, reservations are required. The cost of the luncheon is \$50 per person. Reservations are required by Oct. 7.

“Books & All That Jazz.” A Gala Fundraiser featuring a silent auction, jazz music by Arnett Howard, hors d’oeuvres by Catering by Scott and Ohio wines from Valley Vineyards, will be held the evening before, Oct. 17, from 6 to 9 p.m. on the 31st floor of the Riffe Center for Government and the Arts, 77 S. High Street, Columbus, OH 43215. The cost is \$75 per person and reservations are required.

For more information about the Ohioana Awards or to make reservations for the Luncheon and/or Gala, please contact the Ohioana Library, 274 East First Ave., Suite 300, Columbus, OH 43201, call 614-466-3831, or email ohioana@ohioana.org. The Ohioana weekend events will be dedicated to the memory of Jane C. Campbell, an Ohioana Trustee for more than 24 years.

The Ohioana Awards Luncheon and Gala are sponsored by: Huntington Bank; Vorys, Sater, Seymour & Pease; Seeley Financial Inc.; and Chaddock & Associates/Ameriprise Financial Private Wealth Advisory Practice.

The Ohioana Library Association’s mission is to recognize and encourage the creative accomplishments of Ohioans; preserve and expand a permanent collection of books, sheet music, manuscripts, and other materials by Ohioans and about Ohio; and disseminate information about the work of Ohio writers, musicians and other artists to researchers, schools and the general public. The Ohioana Library is supported by memberships, grants, contributions, and a subsidy from the State of Ohio.

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