Ohioana Announces 2014 Book Award Finalists

The Ohioana Library is pleased to announce the finalists for the 2014 Ohioana Book Awards! The awards, established in 1942, honor Ohio authors in the categories of Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, and Juvenile Literature. The fifth category, About Ohio/Ohioans, may also include works by non-Ohio authors.

The authors on this year’s shortlist include a Pulitzer Prize winner, a past National Book Award finalist and Grammy nominee, a former Children’s Poet Laureate, and eight past Ohioana Book Award winners and finalists. This year’s winners will be announced in July, and the awards will be presented at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus on October 10, 2014. The finalists are:

**Fiction**

**Nonfiction**
In review: 2014 Ohioana Book Festival

Not even a torrential downpour that lasted for much of the day seemed to matter to the more than 2,500 people who came to Fort Hayes on May 10 for the 2014 Ohioana Book Festival! Waiting for the crowds inside were nearly 100 of Ohio's best writers, representing every literary genre from children's picture books to poetry, mystery to biography, science fiction to romance. There was something for every reader of every age to be found at the festival. The day included thirty author panels and roundtables, a book fair, food, music, and a children's activity area. A reception that evening held at the Ohio Governor's Residence made for a perfect end to the day—and by then, even the weather was cooperating!

The week prior to the main event saw a number of our authors doing radio and television appearances; visits to schools, libraries, and community centers; and signings at book stores. Through these activities, they took the Ohioana Book Festival out into the community. Helping everything run smoothly for the festival were Ohioana's partnering organizations and more than fifty volunteers, including the Ohioana Board of Trustees. The event would not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors. You can see a list of all our partners and sponsors on the book festival website.

And finally, a huge thanks to the authors and all who attended. The Ohioana Book Festival is truly an event where “connecting readers and Ohio writers” is not just a tagline, but a reality. Thanks to every one of you, and we hope to see you at the next festival in 2015!


**Poetry**


**Juvenile Literature**

**About Ohio or an Ohioan**

NEW BOOKS

The following books arrived at the Ohioana Library in March and April. Look for them at your local library or bookstore!

Nonfiction


Author Attiyah provides a blueprint for organizations of all sizes to improve and grow by focusing on core processes and supervision. Real-life examples provide further clarity and motivation.


This guide to urban flora and fauna not only helps readers identify plants and animals found in the Queen City, but also helps them avoid potentially unpleasant experiences.

Badal, James Jessen. *In the Wake of the Butcher: Cleveland’s Torso Murders*. Kent State Univ. Press (Kent, OH) 2014. PB $24.95.

Between 1934 and 1938, a serial killer terrorized the Kingsbury Run neighborhood of Cleveland and evaded the city’s safety director, Eliot Ness. In this revised and expanded edition of his 2001 book, Badal includes new information on the killer’s secret lab—and his identity.

Basinger, Randall L. *Putnam County Courthouse, Ottawa, Ohio: Commemorating 100 Years 1913-2013*. 2013. HC.

This local history celebrates the Putnam County, Ohio courthouse from the 1909 petition seeking its construction to the present day. Archival and contemporary images help document the building’s history.


This book traces the life of St. Francis and his development as a teacher, protector of the poor, and as a person who tried to reflect Jesus in all aspects of his life.


Commercial food photographer Teri Campbell not only shares lighting, shooting, and post-processing techniques, but also provides advice on setting up a studio, finding clients, and marketing your photography.


For more than 125 years, a close relationship has existed between baseball players and fans. Cook’s book, however, reveals "rowdy" exceptions involving some of baseball’s greats, from Babe Ruth to Joe Morgan.


Founded in 1903, the House of David was a communal religious group that believed a “righteous remnant” of humanity would be saved after armageddon. In this new edition, Fogarty traces the group’s rise and fall and allows readers to draw comparisons to similar groups today.


Spanning the decades from the Big Red Machine to the present, some of the Cincinnati Reds’ best players share stories of their most memorable games.


When college professor Gilbert and his wife moved to Appalachian Ohio to raise sheep, they were unprepared for the culture shock that awaited them. Gilbert documents their struggles and triumphs as well as his own struggle to make peace with his father’s loss of his boyhood farm.

In 1942, Trochenbrod, Poland was the only all-Jewish town in existence outside of Biblical Israel. When the Nazis began systematic executions on August 11 of that year, only 33 of the town’s 5,000 residents escaped—including 12-year-old Betty Gold. This book describes her struggle to survive in the woods outside the town, her family’s rescue, and their eventual journey to America.


For sixty years the journal *Civil War History* has presented influential scholarship on military, political, and social aspects of the Civil War. Here, the journal’s former editor collects essays that examine Abraham Lincoln’s ideals, leadership, and presidency and explains how each essay expands our understanding of Lincoln and the Civil War.


During her lifetime, Harriet Beecher Stowe was arguably the most famous—and most influential—woman in the United States. This biography documents the religious and cultural struggles that inspired her to write *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* and change the course of American history.


When Jacobs Field opened in 1994, it helped revitalize a city and a fan base. Author McKee interviewed players, managers, and front office personnel to get the inside story of this exciting time in Indians history.


The career of Cincinnati businessman Charlie Mechem, Jr. spanned six decades and included work as an attorney, broadcasting executive, and commissioner of the LPGA. In this book Mechem shares stories about and lessons learned from friends including Neil Armstrong, Jack Nicklaus, and Wendy’s founder Dave Thomas.


This collection of stories and images documents the perspectives of a diverse group of artists, poets, and theologians as they reflect on questions of race.


A combination of graphic novel and travelog, *Silk Road to Ruin* documents Rall’s experiences as he retraced the Silk Road from Beijing to Istanbul.


*Super Boys* is a comprehensive biography of Superman creators Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster from their first meeting as Cleveland teenagers. Author Ricca shows how the boys’ own stories influenced the creation of the world’s most iconic superhero and follows their lives and legal battles after they signed away rights to the character for $130.


In the early 20th century, as he neared the end of his career, famed architect Louis Sullivan built eight small-town banks. One of them, built for The Home Building Association Company, still stands in Newark, Ohio. Author Tebben weaves the stories of Sullivan and banker Emmet Baugher together with the story of the building itself to document the history of Newark’s “jewel box.”


Born in Hungary in 1920, Alfred Tibor survived life as a prisoner of war in Russia before emigrating to the United States and becoming a sculptor. Tibor’s work includes 13 public sculptures in Columbus and more than 500 pieces in private collections around the world.
Bennett, Christopher L. *A Choice of Futures: Rise of the Federation*. Pocket Books/Simon & Schuster (New York, NY) 2013. PB $7.99. The end of the Romulan War has paved the way for the creation of the United Federation of Planets. Admiral Jonathan Archer, former captain of the starship *Enterprise*, envisions a Federation dedicated to exploration. Others, however, want to use it as a military power. When a new threat emerges, Archer and his former crew work to steer the fledgling Federation toward a unified and peaceful path.

Bennett, Christopher L. *Tower of Babel: Rise of the Federation*. Pocket Books/Simon & Schuster (New York, NY) 2014. PB $7.99. Admiral Jonathan Archer hopes to bring the Rigel system into the newly formed United Federation of Planets, thereby stabilizing a key sector of space. When a hostile faction kidnaps Starfleet personnel (including a young officer who will play a vital role in the Federation's future), Archer and his former *Enterprise* crew must locate the hostages before the system is plunged into war.

Castle, Catherine. *The Nun and the Narc*. Soul Mate Publishing (Macedon, NY) 2013. PB $11.99. When novice Sister Margaret Mary stumbles into a drug deal and is captured by the local drug lord, undercover DEA agent Jed Bond is her only chance for escape. As the attraction between them grows and Jed begins to open his heart, Sister Margaret must decide which path to follow.

Hersh, C.D. *The Promised One*. Soul Mate Publishing (Macedon, NY) 2013. PB $13.99. The Turning Stone ring gives its wearer the power to change shape—a powerful weapon for evil in the wrong hands. When homicide detective and shape shifter Alexi Jordan learns her mentor has been murdered and the ring stolen, she risks her job and the man she loves to get it back.

Maazel, Fiona. *Woke Up Lonely*. Graywolf Press (Minneapolis, MN) 2013. HC $26.00. Thurlow Dan is the founder of Helix, a cult that promises to end loneliness via speed-dating, mixers, and social media. However, Dan is still lonely—for his ex-wife. Through his misadventures, author Maazel explores the nature of intimacy with those who matter to us the most.

Miltner, Robert. *And Your Bird Can Sing*. Bottom Dog Press (Huron, OH) 2014. PB $16.00. The short stories in this collection reflect Miltner's background in poetry; they have been described as “playful, inventive, and rhythmic,” and portray working people with realistic poignancy and ambiguity.

Sittenfeld, Curtis. *Sisterland*. Random House (New York, NY) 2013. HC $27.00. Twin sisters Kate and Violet were born with the ability to see the future. Although Vi embraced her talent, Kate sought to hide it and settled in the suburbs to raise a family. When Vi publicly predicts that a major earthquake will hit St. Louis, Kate worries it is the end of the “normal” life she has built for herself—and is also afraid that Vi is right…

Weisgarber, Ann. *The Promise*. Skyhorse Publishing (New York, NY) 2014. HC $24.95. In 1900, Catherine Wainwright leaves Dayton, Ohio to avoid a scandal. Heartbroken and penniless, she marries childhood friend Oscar and moves to Galveston Island, Texas to live with him and his young son. But the island is remote, the boy grieves for his recently deceased mother, and Oscar’s housekeeper Nan has feelings of her own for Oscar. When the storm of the century hits the island, all three are tested as never before. First U.S. edition.

Woolard, Jim R. *Raiding with Morgan: A Novel of the Civil War*. Kensington (New York, NY) 2014. HC $24.00. In the summer of 1863, Confederate general John Morgan led 2,000 soldiers across the Ohio river. This novel tells the story of one Confederate soldier during the raid and its aftermath.


Murphy, Robert. *From Behind the Blind*. Dos Madres (Loveland, OH) 2013. PB $18.00. Like some of Murphy’s other works, the poems in *From Behind the Blind* explore the ambivalence of the human condition by combining the present with the distant past and joy with despair.

After making a bad decision, Megan has spent the entire school year trying to make things right with her best friend, Anna. When Anna invites her to spend the summer at her uncle's farm, Megan thinks they are finally back on track. However, when both girls fall for the same boy, Megan discovers that Anna isn't one to forgive and forget…


When Hannah and her boyfriend sneak off for a pre-college trip to a remote lake house, things start to go subtly but terribly wrong. The deserted house looks as if someone has been living there, and Colin's personality starts to undergo dark changes. Hannah will have to fight to save not only Colin, but herself as well.


In this modern retelling of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, star-crossed teens Roman and Gigi must unravel the mystery of the decades-old feud between their families—before it tears them apart forever.


In this take on Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, Miranda has been banished from her school's popular crowd and now spends her time working with a crew of misfits at the local mall's food court. When a winter storm traps workers and shoppers inside the mall, Miranda seeks revenge against her former clique—with a little help from her new friends.


2014 marked the big-screen release of the first book in Richelle Mead's *Vampire Academy* series. This companion book contains interviews with the author, cast, and crew as well as lots of behind-the-scenes photos.


When John and Marta awake one day to find a boy asleep on their porch, they realize they have been chosen to care for him. Although the boy cannot speak or explain his history, they embrace his warm spirit and artistic talents. Can their unlikely family last?


Being an almost-princess isn't all it's cracked up to be. Ella's new life in the palace involves royal genealogy lessons, decorum, and a not-so-charming prince. However, breaking a royal engagement is no small task. Can Ella escape and find the life she really wants?


Part of the *Next Time You See a Firefly* series, this book includes detailed photographs, fun facts, and activities to help children learn about fireflies.


Part of the *Next Time You See a Pill Bug* series, this book includes detailed photographs, fun facts, and activities to help children learn about pill bugs.
**Coming Soon**

**Fourth Down and Out Walking Tour** June 1, 2014 in German Village
Andrew Welsh-Huggins is leading a walking tour of German Village locations that make appearances in his new Columbus mystery *Fourth Down and Out*. People wishing to participate in the free walk, which will last approximately 30-40 minutes, should meet in front of the Cup o’ Joe shop at 627 S. Third St. at 11:15. Welsh-Huggins will lead the walk through the neighborhood, ending up at Schmidt’s restaurant, 240 E. Kossuth St., around noon. Upstairs at Schmidt’s, he will sign copies of the book for anyone interested, and people can then have lunch in the restaurant.

**Thurber House Summer Literary Picnics 2014 Season** begins June 11, 2014 at Thurber House
The 29th season of Thurber House’s literary picnics begins in June. Enjoy good food on the Thurber House lawn as you listen to great authors with an Ohio connection. Next month’s picnics feature Scott McKenzie (June 11) and David Giffels (June 25). Visit the Thurber House website for more information and to order tickets.

**Pickerington Public Library YA Author Fest** July 26, 2014 at Pickerington Public Library
PPL’s first YA Author Fest gives you the chance to talk to your favorite authors about your favorite books. Get the inside scoop on writing, straight from the authors! No advance sign-up is required. Doors open at 12:30 p.m.; the event starts at 1:00 p.m. Visit PPL’s website to see participating authors and find out more.

**Ohioana Book Club** meets August 13, 2014 at the Ohioana Library
The book for August is *A Killing in the Hills* by Pulitzer Prize winner Julia Keller. The club meets in the Ohioana reading room at 10:00 a.m. If you would like to attend, please e-mail us at ohioana@ohioana.org.