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Connecting Readers and Ohio Writers

2016 OHIOANA AWARDS

Perfect weather, a beautiful setting, wonderful food, more than a hundred book lovers, and most of all a stellar gathering of some of the best writers from and about Ohio made for a truly memorable 75th anniversary celebration of the Ohioana Awards. The event took place in the atrium of Ohio's historic Statehouse on Friday, September 23.

One of the oldest and most prestigious state literary prizes in the nation, the Ohioana Awards were first presented in 1942. The inaugural winner: James "Scotty" Reston, who went on to win two Pulitzer Prizes. Since then, there have been few major Ohio authors who have not been honored with an Ohioana Award, and many distinguished non-Ohioans have also been recognized for their books on Ohio subjects.

This year's event marked the final time for Rudine Sims Bishop to preside over the awards. At Ohioana's annual meeting earlier in the day, Bishop stepped down as president of the Ohioana Board of Trustees after serving



(l to r) Wil Haygood, Nin Andrews, Shelley Pearsall, Eliese Colette Goldbach, Ohioana Executive Director David Weaver, Mary Doria Russell, and David McCullough

October 2016

The Director's Chair

Dear Friends,

Fall is in full swing, and brings with it a number of great literary events around the state. Ohioana just made our own contribution to the season's offerings with the presentation of the annual Ohioana Awards. This year's event was very special as we celebrated the 75th anniversary of the awards.

Speaking of celebrations, Books by the Banks, Cincinnati's regional book festival, marks its 10th anniversary on Saturday, October 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Duke Energy Convention Center in the heart of the Queen City. As always, it will be a fabulous day with more than 100 authors and activities for readers of all ages. Ohioana is pleased to once again be a partner in this fantastic event; be sure to stop by our table!

Also on October 15, Ohioana takes part in the Upper Arlington Public Library's second annual workshop, The Write Stuff, at the library's Tremont Road location. Early next month, on Saturday, November 5, the 29th annual Buckeye Book Fair takes place in Wooster. for four successful years. Emcee and Ohioana Director David Weaver led the audience in applauding Bishop, after which he introduced the new president, Daniel Shuey.

The ceremony began with the presentation of the 27th Walter Rumsey Marvin Grant to Eliese Colette Goldbach of Cleveland. A competitive award for Ohio writers age 30 or younger who have not yet published a book, the Marvin Grant has helped launch a number of successful authors, including 2015 Pulitzer Prize winner Anthony Doerr. Eliese's prize-winning story, *In the Memory of the Living*, will be featured in the fall issue of the *Ohioana Quarterly*.

The presentation of the 75th anniversary Ohioana Book Awards followed: **Poetry:** Nin Andrews, *Why God Is a Woman*

Middle Grade/Young Adult Literature: Shelley Pearsall, *The Seventh Most Important Thing* Juvenile Literature: Loren Long, *Little Tree*

Fiction & Readers' Choice: Mary Doria Russell, *Epitaph: A Novel of the* O.K. Corral

Nonfiction: Wil Haygood, *Showdown: Thurgood Marshall and the Supreme Court Nomination That Changed America* **About Ohio or an Ohioan:** David McCullough, *The Wright Brothers*

All the Ohioana Book Award winners were present except for Loren Long, who appeared on video to express his thanks. Award winners delighted the audience with their remarks, at turns inspiring, touching, and humorous. Following the presentations, Linda Feagler, senior editor of *Ohio Magazine*, once again led a panel discussion where the winners shared their insights on the writing process.

The Ohio Channel streamed the awards ceremony live, and the program will air statewide in the coming weeks via cable on public television stations. It can also be viewed on The Ohio Channel's website at <u>https://www.ohiochannel.org/video/ohioana-awards-2016</u>.

Our thanks to all who attended, and a special thanks to the sponsors and contributors whose generous support made the event possible. Finally, thanks and congratulations once again to this year's winners!



Brews & Prose at Market Garden Brewery in Cleveland continues to grow in popularity with its first-Tuesday-of-the-month lineup of poets and novelists. In Columbus, Thurber House's Evenings with Authors fall season will include an appearance by Ohioana Award– winning biographer Candice Millard on November 15.

Fall also brings the announcement of the National Book Awards, one of America's major literary prizes. This year's finalists include two of Ohio's most noted authors: Rita Dove in poetry for *Collected Poems 1974-2014* and Jacqueline Woodson in fiction for *Another Brooklyn*. Winners will be announced next month.

These nominations, the recent Ohioana Awards, and the numerous events with authors taking place throughout the state remind us once again of the incredibly rich literary landscape of Ohio. Ohioana is very proud to be part of this landscape, as it has been since 1929. Thank you for helping to make it possible. We hope to see you at one of these fall events!

David E. Weaver Executive Director The Ohioana Library Association thanks the following groups for their generous support of the 2016 Ohioana Awards:

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NEW BOOKS

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

Nonfiction

Beckman, Wendy Hart. *University* of Cincinnati College of Nursing: 125 Years of Transforming Health Care. Orange Frazer Press (Wilmington, OH) 2014. HC \$29.99.

The "Cincinnati Training School for Nurses" held its first classes in 1899, and in 1916 offered the nation's first baccalaureate program in nursing. This book provides a decadeby-decade history of the school now known as the UC College of Nursing.

Brinkley, Douglas. Rightful Heritage: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Land of America. Harper (New York, NY) 2016. HC \$35.00. Although he is best remembered as the architect of the New Deal and the president who guided America through World War II, Franklin D. Roosevelt also left a priceless natural legacy by building state park systems, preserving landscapes such as the Everglades and the Great Smokies, and planting over two billion trees. In this book Brinkley traces FDR's love of nature from his youth through his presidency and illuminates the political strategies that helped him implement his conservation goals.

Brookbank, Kilee, and Lori Highlander. *Beautiful Scars.* KiCam Projects (Georgetown, OH) 2016. HC \$24.95. Kilee Brookbank was a typical teenager until the day a gas explosion destroyed her family home and burned forty-five percent of her body. When Kilee returned home after multiple surgeries, finding a new "normal" included not only relearning everyday tasks such as turning a doorknob, but also deciding the kind of person she wanted to become.

Carter, Robert A., and Michael C. Cullen. *Water-Powered Mills of Richland County*. Turas Publishing (Corpus Christi, TX) 2016. PB \$34.00.

Based on nearly fifty years of research by Ohio historian D.W. Garber, this book documents the nineteenth-century mills along the Mohican River and also touches on the lives of the families who ran them and depended on them.

Malone, Bobbie. *Lois Lenski: Storycatcher.* Univ. of Oklahoma Press (Norman, OK) 2016. HC \$26.95.

Ohio native Lois Lenski spent nearly five decades writing and illustrating books for children. Because she wanted to help young people "see beyond the rim of their own world," she traveled extensively throughout the U.S., meeting hardworking families so her books could accurately reflect the lives of their children. Her books not only showed young readers how children lived in other parts of the country, but also reflected the concerns of the time.

Millard, Candice. *Hero of the Empire: The Boer War, a Daring Escape and the Making of Winston Churchill.* Doubleday (New York, NY) 2016. HC \$30.00. As a young man, Winston Churchill was convinced that he was destined to become Prime Minister of England, and thought battlefield glory would be the best way to launch his political career. After serving as a British Army officer in India and the Sudan, he arrived in South Africa in 1899. Just two weeks later, he and the soldiers he was accompanying on an armored train were captured and taken prisoner by Boer rebels. Churchill's daring escape across hundreds of miles of enemy territory not only jump started his rise to political power, but also taught him lessons that would affect world history forty years later.

Miller, Andrew. *If Only the Names Were Changed.* Civil Coping Mechanisms 2016. PB \$15.95. In this collection of autobiographical essays, Miller shares his struggles with a chemical imbalance and substance abuse with brutal honesty.

Norris, Mary. *Between You and Me: Confessions of a Comma Queen.* W.W. Norton & Company (New York, NY) 2015. HC \$24.95. Mary Norris has worked for more than thirty years in the copy department of *The New Yorker.* Here she describes some of the most common problems in spelling, punctuation, and usage and explains how to handle them using laugh-out-loud humor along the way.

Sberna, Robert. *Badge 387: The Story of Jim Simone, America's Most Decorated Cop.* Black Squirrel Books/Kent State Univ. Press (Kent, OH) 2016. PB \$19.95. This book documents the life of Cleveland cop Jim Simone, from his service in the 101st Airborne in Vietnam through nearly four decades as a highly decorated police officer. Steinem, Gloria. *My Life on the Road.* Random House (New York, NY) 2016. PB \$18.00. This autobiography chronicles how Steinem's lifelong travels influenced both her personal and professional growth, and how connecting with people and having an open and observant mind can make a profound difference in how we live.

Zurcher, Neil. The Best of One Tank Trips with Neil Zurcher: Great Getaway Ideas In and Around Ohio. Gray & Company (Cleveland, OH) 2016. PB \$15.95. Travel reporter Neil Zurcher has driven more than a million miles in Ohio and surrounding states for his "One Tank Trips" television segments. This book collects some of his favorite destinations, including a drive-in restaurant unchanged since the 1950s, the worlds longest covered bridge, the only World War II original condition submarine still in existence, and more.

Fiction

Alan, Isabella. *Murder*, *Handcrafted: An Amish Quilt Shop Mystery.* Obsidian (New York, NY) 2016. PB \$7.99.

Quilt shop owner Angie Braddock is happy; her business is going well, and so is her relationship with Sheriff James Mitchell. But when her mother ropes her into a huge home renovation project and an electrician is found dead onsite, it's up to Angie to find the killer.

Chase, Julie. *Cat Got Your Diamonds: A Kitty Couture Mystery.* Crooked Lane Books (New York, NY) 2016. HC \$25.99. Opening an organic pet bakery and boutique in New Orleans' Garden District is the realization of Lacy Crocker's dream—until her glitter gun becomes a murder weapon. With Detective Jack Oliver investigating her and her business investor wanting out, Lacy must solve the crime to save her shop and her freedom.

Coates, Lawrence. *Camp Olvido: A Novella.* Miami Univ. Press (Oxford, OH) 2015. PB \$15.00. In 1930s California, Esteban Alas sells liquor to the workers at migrant labor camps. When a child's illness causes tension between the workers who want to leave camp to get the boy help and the owners who want to enforce their contracts, Esteban becomes a reluctant mediator—and is pulled into a series of events with tragic consequences.

Harper, Karen. *Chasing Shadows: A South Shores Novel*. Mira (Don Mills, Ontario, Canada) 2016. PB \$7.99.

Despite her lifelong battle with a neurological disorder, Claire Britten has built a successful career as a forensic psychologist. When attorney Nick Markwood sees her skill on the witness stand, he invites her to join his passion project investigating mysterious deaths. When they look into a murder and Claire discovers Nick's connection to the case, her disorder is pushed to the limit. Claire begins to wonder if she can trust anyone including herself.

Hegenberger, John. *Superfall.* Black Opal Books 2015. PB \$13.99. In the summer of 1959, actor George Reeves (TV's Superman) died of an apparent suicide...or did he? In Hegenberger's latest Stan Wade adventure, the Los Angeles P.I. tries to uncover the truth, and in the process must deal with the mob, the Soviets, federal agents, and a cast of characters ranging from Micky Cohen to Lloyd Bridges.

McDaniel, Tiffany. *The Summer That Everything Melted.* St. Martin's Press (New York, NY) 2016. HC \$25.99.

In the summer of 1984, a battered thirteen-year-old boy appears in Breathed, Ohio, claiming to be the devil answering an invitation. Fielding Bliss, son of the town's prosecutor, takes him home, where the family assumes the boy is a runaway. But when strange events start to occur, some residents of Breathed start to believe the boy is exactly who he claims to be. As the Bliss family grapples with their own demons, tensions rise to a breaking point that will change the town and the people in it forever.

Thomson, Cindy. *Pages of Ireland: Daughters of Ireland Book 2.*

(Pataskala, OH) 2016. PB \$13.99. In sixth-century Ireland, Aine is being forced into marriage against her will. When she steals a book from her future husband's clan in the hopes it can help her mother's people, she starts a chain of events that will involve a banished druid, a monastery, and the army of the king himself.

White, Randy Wayne. *Deceived: A Hannah Smith Novel.* G.P. Putnam's Sons (New York, NY) 2013. HC \$26.95.

Fishing guide and part-time investigator Hannah Smith has her hands full with a twenty-yearold murder and a private museum dedicated to Florida's early settlers that turns out to be a scam. Things get even worse when she discovers that the museum fraud is covering up a real estate deal that could destroy her village and anyone who stands in the way.

Poetry

Lowe, Janice A. *Leaving Cle: Poems of Nomadic Dispersal*. Miami Univ. Press (Oxford, OH) 2016. PB \$18.00. Lowe's debut collection moves

from Cleveland to Brooklyn to Chicago and elsewhere as she explores the physical and emotional spaces of each city. Lowe "makes you feel through all the flux there is something unshakable at the center" as she celebrates not just place, but also family.

Tripoulas, John. *A Soul Inside Each Stone.* Dos Madres Press (Loveland, OH) 2016. PB \$17.00 Poet and physician John Tripoulas melds Greek mythology and modern life on an Aegean island to craft this collection of poems, each of which holds a secret while telling its story.

Young Adult

Lane, J.C. *Tag, You're Dead.* Poisoned Pen Press (Scottsdale, AZ) 2016. PB \$15.95. Six young people are playing a deadly game of tag in the streets of Chicago: three innocent "runners" and three "its" who have paid a small fortune to track and kill their prey. According to the rules, the game only ends when a runner is tagged and killed—but can the runners find another way to stop the game?

McGinnis, Mindy. *The Female of the Species*. Katherine Tegen Books (New York, NY) 2016. HC \$17.99. Since the man who killed her sister three years ago went free, high

school senior Alex has decided to administer her own justice, which is violent and permanent. Although she distances herself from other people, two fellow students still try to befriend her: Jack, the star athlete who carries his own guilt about her sister's death, and Peekay, who sees her protective side when they volunteer together at an animal shelter. When Alex's darker side is unleashed one night, a chain of events begins that will change the teens and their town forever.

Miller, Brandon Marie. Women of Colonial America: 13 Stories of Courage and Survival in the New World. Chicago Review Press (Chicago, IL) 2016. HC \$19.95. Based on primary sources, this book documents the lives of thirteen European, African, and Native American women in colonial America. Although the New World was defined almost entirely by men, these women nonetheless found a way to defy authority by building successful businesses, writing poetry, escaping slavery, and more.

Middle Grade & Children's

Blanco, Richard. Illus. by Dav Pilkey. *One Today: The Inaugural Poem for President Barack Obama.* Little, Brown & Company (New York, NY) 2015. HC \$ 18.00. This picture book, illustrated by Ohioan Dav Pilkey, shares the poem read at Barack Obama's second presidential inauguration, celebrating a day in the life of America from dawn to dusk and from coast to coast.

Draper, Sharon M. *Stella by Starlight*. Atheneum Books for Young Readers (New York, NY) 2015. HC \$ 17.99. Inspired by her grandmother's diary, Draper tells the story of Stella, a young girl growing up in Depression-era, segregated North Carolina. When Stella and her little brother stumble upon a Ku Klux Klan meeting late one night, they recognize it as the start of unwelcome and dangerous change to come. As the townspeople come together to fight injustice, Stella learns the importance of courage and the power of words.

Mackall, Dandi Daley. *Jonah and the Fish.* Tyndale Kids (Carol Stream, IL) 2016. HC \$14.99. This picture book retelling of the classic Bible story features a twist: after hearing Jonah's story, readers can flip the book over and hear the story again from the fish's point of view.

Meyer, Karen. *The Tiara Mystery.* Sable Creek Press (Glendale, AZ) 2016. PB \$10.99.

Claire Russell's family will lose the boarding house they run unless her father can pay the mortgage. To help raise money, Claire and her brother Reuben stage a play and invite their neighbors, boarders, and a young Orville Wright to act in it. When a boarder's valuable tiara is stolen the night of the play, Claire, Reuben, and Orville race to catch the thief and save their home.

Patterson, James, and Chris Grabenstein. Illus. by Joe Sutphin. *Word of Mouse.* Jimmy Patterson Books/Little, Brown & Company (New York, NY) 2016. HC \$13.99. Isaiah is a blue mouse who can read, write, and talk. After escaping from a secret laboratory, he struggles to survive in the outside world and find his mouse family until he meets a girl named Hailey and discovers the meaning of true friendship. Illustrated by Ohioan Joe Sutphin.

Stewart, Aileen. *Quack and Daisy: Beyond the Meadow.* Tate Publishing (Mustang, OK) 2016. PB \$8.99.

Daisy the kitten and Quack the duckling are best friends who spend their days playing in the meadow. But when Mama Duck warns them not to stray beyond the meadow's edge, their curiosity is piqued. Will they be able to make it home safely? Wiechman, Kathy Cannon. *Empty Places.* Calkins Creek (Honesdale, PA) 2016. HC \$17.95. In 1932 Harlan County, Kentucky, thirteen-year-old Adabel Cutler is trying to fill the empty places in her life. Her sister is mostly absent, her brother is restless and defiant, her coal-miner father has started drinking, and her mother hasn't returned after leaving home seven years earlier. Adabel must deal with town gossip, a mining disaster, and long-held secrets as she struggles to bring her family back together. Yolen, Jane, and Rebecca Kai Dotlich. Illus. by Angela Matteson. *Grumbles from the Town: Mother-Goose Voices with a Twist.* Wordsong (Honesdale, PA) 2016. HC \$17.95.

In this book, fourteen Mother Goose rhymes are reimagined via pairs of poems with a twist: the authors describe Little Miss Muffett from the spider's point of view; sympathize with the sleepless dog from "It's Raining, It's Pouring"; and theorize that the Three Blind Mice were just nearsighted. Illustrated by Ohioan Angela Matteson.

COMING SOON

Thurber House Evenings with Authors Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, Ohio The 2016 series of author readings features outstanding writers across all genres, including Ohioan Candice Millard. For schedule and ticket information, visit <u>http://thurberhouse.org/evenings-with-authors.html</u>.

Books by the Banks October 15, 2016, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Duke Energy Convention Center, Cincinnati, Ohio This regional book fair features a book sale, author signings, children's and teen activities, panels and workshops, a writing contest, and author awards. For more information visit <u>http://booksbythebanks.org</u>.

The Write Stuff October 15, 2016, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Upper Arlington Main Library, Upper Arlington, Ohio The second annual day of information and inspiration for writers will feature sessions and workshops by local authors as well as an expo of local publishers and literary organizations. For more information, visit <u>www.ualibrary.org</u>.

Buckeye Book Fair November 5, 2016, 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Fisher Auditorium, Wooster, Ohio The 29th annual book fair is a great chance to get a jump on holiday shopping. For more information, visit <u>www.buckeyebookfair.com</u>.

Ohioana Book Club November 16, 2016, 10 a.m. – noon, Ohioana Library, Columbus The book for November is *The Soil Will Save Us* by Kristin Ohlson. The club meets in the Ohioana reading room from 10:00 a.m. to noon. If you would like to attend, please e-mail us at ohioana@ohioana.org.

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