The Ohioana Library is pleased to announce the finalists for the 2017 Ohioana Book Awards! First given in 1942, the awards are the second oldest state literary prizes in the nation and honor outstanding books by Ohio authors or about Ohio subjects. Awards are given in six categories: Fiction, Poetry, Juvenile Literature, Middle Grade/Young Adult Literature, Nonfiction, and books about Ohio or Ohioans.

Among the finalists are winners of the National Book Award, the Pulitzer Prize, the Newbery Medal, and the Pushcart Prize; a Guggenheim Fellow; two U.S. Children’s Poet Laureates; CNN’s Presidential Historian; and five authors whose titles made either the New York Times or Amazon 2016 year-end “best” list.

Beginning Monday, May 23, we will present “Thirty Books, Thirty Days,” a special feature on our Facebook page in which one finalist is profiled each weekday thru Friday, June 30. Also in June, Ohioana will conduct the second annual “Readers’ Choice” online poll where people can pick their favorite book from among all thirty finalists.

Winners will be announced in July, and the awards will be presented at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus on Friday, October 6. The finalists are:

**Fiction**
- Gustine, Amy. *You Should Pity Us Instead*, Sarabande.
- Pollock, Donald Ray. *The Heavenly Table*, Doubleday.
Nonfiction
Macy, Beth. *Truevine: Two Brothers, a Kidnapping, and a Mother’s Quest: A True Story of the Jim Crow South*, Little, Brown & Company.
Mezurek, Kelly D. *For Their Own Cause: The 27th United States Colored Troops*, Kent State University Press.

About Ohio/Ohioan

Poetry
Collins, Martha. *Admit One: An American Scrapbook*, University of Pittsburgh Press.
Siegel, James J. *How Ghosts Travel*, Spuyten Duyvil.

Juvenile Literature

Middle Grade/Young Adult Literature
Knight, Mary. *Saving Wonder*, Scholastic Press.

divisions from 1935 to 1937. The exhibit was prepared last summer by our Ruth Weimer Mount Intern, Morgan Peters, who has since rejoined us as Ohioana’s program assistant. The colorful image for the exhibit you see on the back page of the newsletter, which is also the slider on our website home page, was created by Kathryn Powers, our office manager and in-house graphic designer.

The exhibit was the first project to use a new high-resolution scanner Ohioana acquired specifically for the purpose of digitizing rare and fragile items. Our thanks to The Pilot Club of Columbus for helping us to add this important piece of technology to the library.

We are grateful that you have chosen to be a special part of Ohioana. We are here for you, and we’re here because of you. Thank you so much!

David E. Weaver
Executive Director
NEW BOOKS

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

Nonfiction

Bartenstein, Fred (ed.). Lucky Joe’s Namesake: The Extraordinary Life and Observations of Joe Wilson. The University of Tennessee Press (Knoxville, TN) 2017. PB $29.95. Joe Wilson (1938-2015), a native of rural East Tennessee, was a civil rights activist, self-educated scholar, founder/administrator of nationally important roots music enterprises, and was legendary for his colorful writing and opinions. Lucky Joe’s Namesake, a companion to Roots Music in America: Collected Writings of Joe Wilson, presents Wilson’s life and observations, mostly in his own words. This eclectic anthology is filled with Joe Wilson’s published writing for magazines, books, and newspapers as well as privately circulated unpublished works, including an extended autobiographical essay. Wilson’s lessons and artful ruminations are culled from a lifetime of devotion to music and cultural and social activism.

Dawidziak, Mark. Everything I Need to Know I Learned in the Twilight Zone: A Fifth-Dimension Guide to Life. Thomas Dunne Books (New York, NY) 2017. HC $26.99. Can you live your life by what The Twilight Zone has to teach you? Yes, and maybe you should. The proof is in this lighthearted collection of life lessons, ground rules, inspirational thoughts, and stirring reminders found in Rod Serling's timeless fantasy series. Written by veteran TV critic Mark Dawidziak, this unauthorized tribute is a celebration of the classic anthology show, but also a kind of fifth-dimension self-help book, with each lesson supported by the morality tales told by Serling and his writers.

Bartenstein, Fred (ed.). Roots Music in America: Collected Writings of Joe Wilson. The University of Tennessee Press (Knoxville, TN) 2017. PB $29.95. Joe Wilson served for twenty-eight years as executive director of the National Folk Festival and National Council for Traditional Arts. Throughout his impressive career, Wilson wrote extensively and colorfully about many facets of vernacular music in North America, including works on major folk instruments and characteristic musical styles such as old-time, bluegrass, modern country, blues, cowboy, a cappella gospel, and others. This volume, a companion to Lucky Joe’s Namesake: The Extraordinary Life and Observations of Joe Wilson, compiles Wilson’s best writings on musical topics, including some previously unpublished works.

Beischel, Cynthia Kuhn. Lost Tea Rooms of Downtown Cincinnati: Reflections & Recipes. American Palate (Charleston, SC) 2016. PB $21.99. It was a different time. Ladies wore gloves, hats, and nice attire to luncheons at the Woman’s Exchange. Shillito’s provided a cosmopolitan environment for its patrons, while Mullane’s was the perfect place to sip and socialize. The popular Good Morning Show radio program, hosted by charming Bob Braun and later Nick Clooney, was broadcast from McAlpin’s Tea Room. Women gathered at Pogue’s and Mabley & Carew tea rooms to celebrate birthdays, wedding showers, and baby showers over dainty tea sandwiches. Author Cynthia Kuhn Beischel brings the Queen City’s bygone downtown tea rooms back to life and shares more than one hundred beloved recipes.

Davis, Wm. Bruce. Fundamentals of Ohio Real Estate Law. Carolina Academic Press (Durham, NC) 2016. PB $60.00. Ohio real estate law is organized in a logical manner, introducing basic concepts in early chapters and building to more complex topics, while focusing on real-world issues. This text covers the new real estate closing requirements effective in 2015. In addition to the content for an undergraduate real estate law course, this book contains three chapters for the required law prelicensing course for Ohio real estate agents.

Dawidziak, Mark. Everything I Need to Know I Learned in the Twilight Zone: A Fifth-Dimension Guide to Life. Thomas Dunne Books (New York, NY) 2017. HC $26.99. Can you live your life by what The Twilight Zone has to teach you? Yes, and maybe you should. The proof is in this lighthearted collection of life lessons, ground rules, inspirational thoughts, and stirring reminders found in Rod Serling’s timeless fantasy series. Written by veteran TV critic Mark Dawidziak, this unauthorized tribute is a celebration of the classic anthology show, but also a kind of fifth-dimension self-help book, with each lesson supported by the morality tales told by Serling and his writers.

Grandt, Jurgen E. Seeking Home: Marginalization and Representation in Appalachian Literature and Song. The University of Tennessee Press (Knoxville, TN) 2016. PB $34.00. Seeking Home turns the stereotype of poorly educated Appalachian people upside down by showcasing the region’s ethnic diversity through a collection of essays discussing fiction, poetry, letters, and songs.
Harwood, Gary, Carole Harwood, and David Foster. *Tiger Legacy: Stories of Massillon Football*. Daylight Books 2015. HC $28.95. A community storytelling project that includes images and first-person narratives of all those who contribute to the Massillon, Ohio, high school football experience: the players, the coaches and staff, the principal, members of the Tiger Swing Band, the cheerleaders, the Pep Club, the Orangeman, the Sideliners, the Touchdown Club, the Tiger Moms, the mayor, the season ticket holders, the orange-and black-clad fans, and the beloved mascot, Obie, the live tiger cub. The story of Massillon football can be seen in the extraordinary ways that the community comes together to support its Tigers season after season, generation after generation. Tiger Legacy is rooted in a more than one-hundred-year history that traces back to the origins of the sport. While football was not created in Massillon, it took root there in ways that popularized the game.

Pender, Rick. *100 Things to Do in Cincinnati Before You Die*. Reedy Press (St. Louis, MO) 2016. PB $16.00.

Cincinnati has been an important, intriguing city since its founding in 1788. One of America’s largest metropolises in the nineteenth century, it was known as the Gateway to the West. To reach the American frontier, most travelers ferried down the Ohio River. In Cincinnati they enjoyed a refined stop before heading to less populated regions. In the mid-nineteenth century, thousands of immigrants found new homes in Cincinnati, a city reminiscent of the European regions they left behind. These industrious people established institutions and businesses that continue to give the city its unique identity—from music (especially singing) to beer and the arts. In *100 Things to Do in Cincinnati Before You Die*, readers are pointed to many facets of the Queen City to explore. Fine and casual dining, arts and culture, history, sports traditions, and some uniquely local shopping opportunities are all described in this book.


Smith, the esteemed author of eight books of poetry as well as novels, memoirs, biographies, and other works, recalls his experience of Ohio mill-town life and the effect it had on his writing.

**Fiction**


This National Book Award finalist is the story of twenty-two men who gather every fall to painstakingly reenact what ESPN called “the most shocking play in NFL history” and the Washington Redskins dubbed the “Throwback Special”: the November 1985 play in which the Redskins’ Joe Theismann had his leg horribly broken by Lawrence Taylor of the New York Giants live on Monday Night Football. Chris Bachelder introduces us to Charles, a psychologist whose expertise is in high demand; George, a garrulous public librarian; Fat Michael, envied and despised by the others for being exquisitely fit; Jeff, a recently divorced man who has become a theorist of marriage; and many more. Over the course of a weekend, the men reveal their secret hopes, fears, and passions as they choose roles, spend a long night preparing for the play, and finally enact their bizarre ritual for what may be the last time. Along the way, mishaps, misunderstandings, and grievances pile up, and the comforting traditions holding the group together threaten to give way.

Bennett, Christopher L. *Star Trek Enterprise: Rise of the Federation: Live By the Code*. Pocket Books (New York, NY) 2016. PB $7.99. Admiral Jonathan Archer has barely settled in as Starfleet Chief of Staff when new crises demand his attention. The Starfleet task force commanded by Captain Malcolm Reed continues its fight against the deadly Ware technology, but one of the task force ships is captured and its Andorian crew is imprisoned by an interstellar Partnership that depends on the Ware for its prosperity. Worse, the Partnership has allied with a renegade Klingon faction, providing it with Ware drone fleets to mount an insurrection against the Klingon Empire. Archer sends Captain T’Pol and the Endeavour to assist Reed in his efforts to free the captured officers. But he must also keep his eye on the Klingon border, for factions within the Empire blame Starfleet for provoking the Ware threat and seek revenge. Even the skill and dedication of the captains under Archer’s command may not be enough to prevent the outbreak of the Federation’s first war.

Cooper, Doug. *The Investment Club*. Rare Bird Books (Los Angeles, CA) 2016. PB $17.95.
Forty million people visit Las Vegas every year, but most never get past the Strip. What about the people who live there? What brought them to the city, and what keeps them there? Five unusual characters meet at the El Cortez Casino in downtown Vegas. As the five learn to support and stabilize each other, they also determine the meaning and value of their own lives.

Cooper, Doug. *Outside In*. Rare Bird Books (Los Angeles, CA) 2016. PB $15.95.

Former junior high math teacher Brad Shepherd has been forced out of his job after the overdose death of a student. Looking for an endless summer, he travels to Put-in-Bay, comforted by the hedonistic atmosphere. He trades his academic responsibilities for those of a bouncer, befriends a drug dealer, and loses himself to drugs and excess. As Labor Day approaches, Brad must face the grim reality of his empty quest. With nowhere left to run or to hide, he must find the courage to let go.


Claire Britten’s training never prepared her for this—the forensic psychology curriculum didn’t cover plane crashes or how to help seven frightened people huddled in two small rafts awaiting a rescue that may never come. Especially when three people are her loved ones: her ex-husband; her young daughter; and the man she loves, Nick Markwood, whose pursuit by a criminal mastermind forced them all to run in the first place. When the bedraggled crew finally reaches dry land, they are still far from safe.

Nick tries to secure transport to their witness-protection placement, urging everyone to stick to the identities laid out for them. They don’t need any complications. But when danger follows them to their supposed safe haven, Claire and Nick no longer know who is helping or harming them. Racked by doubt and mistrust, still hunted, they must band together—or fall.

Young Adult


Khosa was born to be fed to the sea, to prevent the kind of wave that once destroyed the Kingdom of Stille. She can’t be sacrificed until she produces an heir, but human touch repulses her—except for the touch of the Indiri. Dara and Donil are the last of the Indiri, a native race with magic that’s seductive—a force of nature—but dwindling since the Pietra slaughtered their people. Witt leads the Pietra, the fierce warriors who are now marching on the Kingdom of Stille. The stone shores of Witt’s kingdom harbor a secret threat, and to ensure the survival of his people, he’s prepared to conquer every speck of Stille’s soil. Vincent stands to inherit the throne of Stille, but has no wife to share it with. When the beautiful and mysterious Khosa arrives without an heir, Vincent knows that his father will stop at nothing to make sure she fulfills her duty. Torn between protecting his kingdom and protecting the girl whose fate is tied to its very existence, Vincent’s loyalty is soon at odds with his heart. While royals scheme, Pietrans march, and the Indiri struggle to survive, the rising sea calls for its Given, and Khosa is destined to answer.


From the sun’s super-hot core to the many moons of Neptune, *Facts from Space!* travels to the far reaches of our solar system and beyond. Astronomer Dean Regas presents an exciting education on everything outside our atmosphere. The book is filled with space facts and trivia for amateur astronomers and science fiction fans.

Middle Grade & Children’s


Since the Civil War, U.S. soldiers and their canine companions have been inseparable. Over time, these dogs have shown they provide more than love. *Bonded by Battle* is the first book to tell the whole 150-year story of how dogs and soldiers built a relationship on and off the battlefield, teaming up to become our military’s most advanced counter-terrorism weapon.


Among the millions of stories ever told, the tales of the legendary explorer Marco Polo are the most renowned. Listen as an old-time scribe tells his curious young neighbor about stories that are worth remembering.
Ohioana’s first online exhibit has gone live! We are happy to share these treasures that exemplify the type of unique and culturally significant items that Ohioana collects and preserves. The exhibit focuses on a scrapbook created by members of the junior-juvenile division of the Ohio Federation of Music Clubs from 1935-1937. All ninety-eight pages of the scrapbook and their components are fully digitized and viewable on our website at www.ohioana.org/OFMC. Pages include newspaper articles and advertisements from the 1930s, information about club members and associates, and handmade artwork. Please stop by to learn more about a truly interesting piece of Ohioana!

Coming Soon

Ohioana Book Club May 17, 2017, 10:00 a.m. – noon, Ohioana Library, Columbus, Ohio
The book for May is Capitol Punishment: An Andy Hayes Mystery by Andrew Welsh-Huggins, who will join us for the discussion. If you would like to attend, please e-mail us at ohioana@ohioana.org.

Wil Haygood: A Special Event May 17, 2017, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m., Thurber Center, Columbus, Ohio
Celebrate the 20th anniversary re-release of Wil Haygood’s Ohioana Book Award-winning memoir, The Haygoods of Columbus: A Love Story. For more information and tickets, visit www.thurberhouse.org.

Claire’s Day May 20, 2017, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, Maumee Branch, 501 River Rd., Maumee, Ohio
Claire’s Day is the celebration of life, authors, illustrators, and reading excellence. Held annually for the past sixteen years in Maumee, Ohio, in memory of Claire Lynsey Rubini, this book festival is Northwest Ohio’s largest celebration of literacy! Several Ohioans will be among the participating authors. Visit www.claireday.org for more information.

AHA! Festival Book Fair June 7, 2017, noon – 8:00 p.m., PlayhouseSquare, Cleveland, Ohio
The inaugural street book fair kicks off with “Read Ohio,” a discussion featuring children's authors Tricia Springstubb and Jennifer Maschari. For more information, visit www.csuohio.edu/sites/default/files/AHA-Book-Festival-Schedule-041317.pdf.

Thurber House Summer Literary Picnics June 7 – August 16, 2017, Thurber House, Columbus, Ohio
The thirty-second summer season kicks off Wednesday, June 7, at 5:30 p.m. with sports columnist and author Bob Hunter. For information and tickets, visit the Thurber House website at www.thurberhouse.org.

Brews + Prose June 13, 2017, Market Garden Brewery, Cleveland, Ohio
The fifth season of monthly literary readings concludes with authors Thrity Umrigar and Margot Singer. For more information, visit www.brewsandprose.com.