

OHIO *ana* QUARTERLY

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Collecting, Preserving, and Celebrating Ohio Literature

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From the Director

Dear Friends,



“An idea is a greater monument than a cathedral.”

Those words, spoken by the fictional defense attorney Henry Drummond in the play *Inherit the Wind*, are also inscribed on the gravestone of one of its two Ohio authors, Elyria’s Robert E. Lee. This year marks the centennial of Lee’s birth, and in the cover story of this issue we visit the theatre institute at the Ohio State University named for him and his collaborator, Cleveland’s Jerome Lawrence, as the latest in our series of Ohio’s Literary Landmarks.

I know firsthand of the Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee Theatre Research Institute because TRI – as it’s often called – was a great resource for me when I began working twenty years ago on what ultimately would become the book *Black Diva of the Thirties: The Life of Ruby Elzy*. Elzy, an Ohio State graduate and pioneer African American soprano, created the role of Serena in George Gershwin’s immortal folk opera *Porgy and Bess* in 1935. As it happened, the press agent was a man named Robert Wachsman. His personal papers, photos, and clippings about that 1935 production, housed as part of the Lawrence and Lee collection, were the starting point for my research.

The Wachsman papers are just one small part of what is the richest and most extensive collection of theatre materials to be found anywhere outside New York City. And it is not only the collections, but TRI’s programming and events that make it truly an Ohio Literary Landmark. Our special thanks to TRI’s Nena Couch and Beth Kattelman for their invaluable help and assistance in preparing the article.

In addition to the cover story, you’ll find a list of great books perfect for summer reading. Among them are the thirty finalists for the 77th annual Ohioana Book Awards, which we announced in May. The winners will be announced in July, and you’ll meet them in the fall issue of the *Quarterly*.

Until then, have a wonderful summer – one we hope is filled with good times and good books!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Weaver'.

David Weaver
Executive Director

ON THE COVER

Playwrights Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee at a 1955 rehearsal for *Inherit the Wind*. Turn the page to read more about the Theatre Research Institute named for them at The Ohio State University. (Photo: Ohioana Library Collection)

A Treasure House in Columbus: Theatre History at the Lawrence and Lee Ohio Literary Landmarks

by Bryan Loar

The Ohio State University Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee Theatre Research Institute (TRI) is an incredible resource for students, faculty, and the public. The institute supports its constituents “in journeys of discovery that lead to new knowledge, scholarship, and creative works through exploration and deep engagement with extraordinary performing arts resources.” Housing world-renowned special collections, the institute is a treasured literary landmark.

A Collection Sought Worldwide

Established in 1951, the original collection contains microfilm in addition to bibliographies culled from 100 European museums and libraries. Founding Director John McDowell created an unparalleled survey of theatre history of 450,000 frame microfilm archives. The microfilm provides a glimpse into rare costume and scene designs, documents, playbills, and posters with a focus on the Western world.

Over the years, thanks to several key contributors and families, TRI has acquired extraordinary primary sources including manuscript collections, theatre and dance company archives, costumes, painted drops, scene and costume design scrapbooks, scripts, and models reconstructing important theatrical and technical devices. Rounding out the collection are clippings of reviews, articles, books, brochures, journals, photographs, posters, and programs.

TRI highlights include 1952-1956 *Porgy and Bess* materials with Maya Angelou, Cab Calloway, George Gershwin, and more; the largest collection of original

Czech theatre designs outside the Czech Republic; one of the largest collections of burlesque materials anywhere; the Bebe Miller Collection from the award-winning dancer and company; several collections on the famous French mime, Marcel Marceau; and the Marthe Armbruster Scenic Studio Collection with vintage scenic drops from what was considered the second largest provider of stage scenery in the country.

At the heart of TRI is the personal collection of its two remarkable namesakes. In 1986, the Theatre Research Institute was renamed to honor celebrated, Ohio-born playwrights Jerome Lawrence (1915-2004), himself an Ohio State alumnus, and Robert E. Lee (1918-1994). Together, the men created enduring works of American theatre, including *Inherit the Wind*, *The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail*, *Auntie Mame*, and its musical transformation, *Mame*. Their collection, which includes original scripts, correspondence, and publicity materials,



Elsie Janis, ca. 1915 (Library of Congress)

documents the extraordinary writing partnership that began with Jerry Lawrence and Bob Lee's very first meeting in a New York coffee shop in 1941 and lasted until Lee's death more than 50 years later.

Bob Lee's wife, actress Janet Waldo Lee, was a star in her own right in an unusual medium: voicing characters for some of television's most beloved cartoons. Millions knew her distinct voice as Judy Jetson, Penelope Pitstop, and Josie in *Josie and the Pussycats*. Waldo Lee died at age 97 in 2016. Materials related to her career, recently donated to TRI by her family, are a rich addition to the legacy of Lawrence and Lee at The Ohio State University.

Researchers worldwide have sought out TRI's collections, including TRI Visiting Research Fellowship Recipient Mervyn Heard from England. Closer to home in Central Ohio, TRI has augmented the learning experience for thousands of students and faculty.

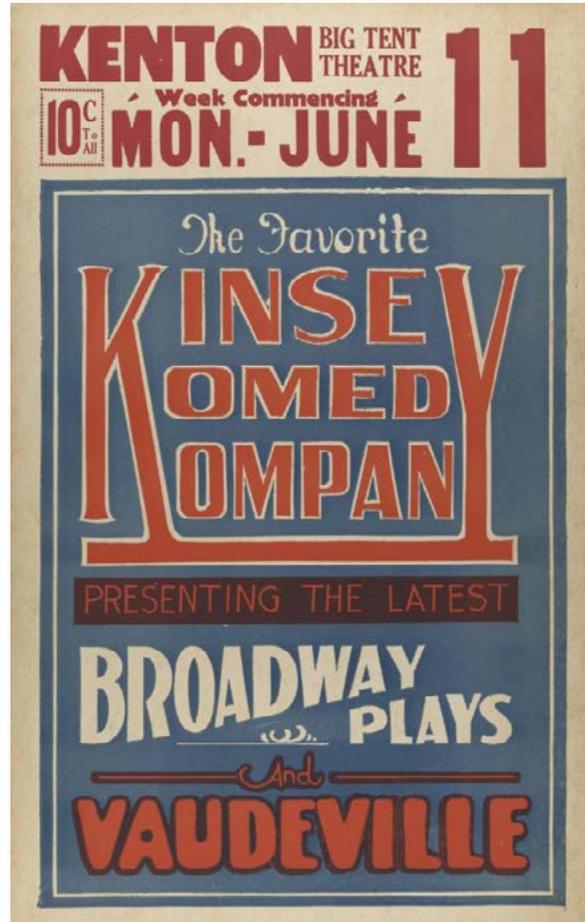
"Do I Come from Ohio? By Damn Yes!"

Elsie Janis (1889-1956) was a child actor, vaudevillian, songwriter, performer, director, author, and poet. Her craft took her across the globe, but Columbus, Ohio, was always home in her heart.

In collaboration with the Laura M. Mueller British and American Theatre and Film Collections, the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum, and several important individual contributors, TRI created the 2003 exhibit, *"Some Sort of Somebody": Ohioan Elsie Janis on the Stage and in the Trenches*. While the physical exhibit is no longer showing, an online exhibit continues to foster exploration and discovery.

The online exhibit delivers greater understanding of Janis and her career. Biographical highlights include

her debut at the Southern Theatre, entertaining Ohio governor and then President William McKinley, supervising production for *Paramount on Parade*, entertaining World War I troops in France, and becoming a charter member of the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP). Highlights of her work and other details are featured in TRI's rich archive of imagery.



Curtiss Show Print Collection, The Ohio State University, Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee Theatre Research Institute.

Curtiss Show Prints: At the Crossroads

The Curtis Show Print Collection includes an amazing array of posters, job tickets, ledgers, correspondence, and more than 1,200 printing blocks. The collection came into being thanks to the generosity of former Curtiss Show Print owner, the late Nyle Stateler.

In the early twentieth century, Ohio was an important intersection for touring circus, theater, and minstrel companies. After starting in 1905 under Bill Curtiss, Curtiss Show Print moved to Continental, Ohio, to capitalize on the junction of two major railroad lines. In 1956, Nyle Stateler and two partners bought the business after Curtiss' death. A few years later Stateler became the sole owner. Stateler had joined

Curtiss Show Print shortly after graduating high school in 1941 and ran the company, using much of the original equipment, until 2013.

The collection's prints are a primary source for scholarship. Ohio State's Department of Theatre successfully used the prints in a course on American culture and popular entertainment, and Ohio State's Department of Design brought print manager Jim Sherraden of the famous Hatch Show Print company of Nashville, Tennessee, in for a special lecture using several pieces from the collection.



The reading room at the Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee Theatre Research Institute.

Programs Encourage Discovery & Creation

By celebrating excellence, hosting guest lecturers, and providing research awards, the institute inspires further research and new works.

Margo Jones Award

The Margo Jones Medal annually honors “that citizen-of-the-theatre who has demonstrated a significant impact, understanding, and affirmation of the craft of playwriting, with a lifetime commitment to the encouragement of the living theatre everywhere.”

Margo Jones (1912-1955) revolutionized American theatre through her own company and consequently launched the American professional regional theatre movement. She championed burgeoning playwrights and new plays, including Tennessee Williams’s *Summer and Smoke* and Lawrence and Lee’s *Inherit the Wind*.

In April 2018, playwright Paula Vogel became the latest medal recipient. Vogel has written on themes of sexual abuse, terminal illness, prostitution, and troubled veterans. Her latest play, *Indecent*, premiered in 2017. The play explores Jewish identity, immigration, and self-censorship, and it was born out of concerns over the rise of hate speech and anti-immigration rhetoric. Vogel has also been praised for her strong commitment to nurturing new playwrights.

Lectures

TRI’s lecture series invites leading figures in theatre to share their experiences and wisdom. Lecturers come from all areas of theatre, including playwrights, critics, directors, costume and lighting designers, and more, and each is connected with the collection or university. Notable lecturers include Tony Kushner, playwright of

Angels in America; Chris Jones, *Chicago Tribune* chief theatre critic and Ohio State alumnus; Yanci Bukovec, former stage partner to legendary French mime, Marcel Marceau; and several others.

In the fall of 2018, American actor, director, and screenwriter Theodore “Ted” Lange will visit. Possibly best known for his role as bartender, Isaac Washington, in the 1970s TV series *The Love Boat*, Lange has also directed popular television shows and written more than twenty plays. His one-man show, *Behind the Mask – An Evening with Paul Laurence Dunbar*, played to sold-out audiences at The Ohio State University and San Jose State University. Lange has donated more than 100 boxes of posters, photographs, scripts, production files, correspondence, and audio-visual materials to TRI.

Research Awards

TRI’s awards help to create new knowledge, scholarship, and creative works. The institute awards up to \$3,000 through the Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee Theatre Research Institute Research Award and another \$3,000 through the Irwin and Jane Spector Research Award. While the latter focuses on TRI’s holdings on Dalcroze Eurhythmics, a particular approach to music education using rhythmic movement and other techniques, the TRI Research Award supports research in the performing arts. Two TRI Research Award highlights include Bianca Sams and Dr. Mervyn Heard.

Bianca Sams is an actor, writer, producer, and graduate of New York University’s Tisch School and Ohio University’s Master of Fine Arts program in playwriting. While studying at Ohio University, she worked closely with TRI and their rich *Porgy and Bess* special collections. The important collections focus on the Robert Breen-Blevins Davis production of *Porgy and Bess* that toured from 1952-56 in the United States, Europe, Russia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. Materials include photos of Maya Angelou, Cab Calloway, and many more, as well as Director Robert Breen’s papers. By studying this rich archive, Bianca Sams created her own full-length play, *Just Porgy*, which examines the racism and segregation actors and creative teams faced in the 1950s. Based on her research, Sams also publicly lectured on “Using ‘Found Stories’ as Inspiration.”

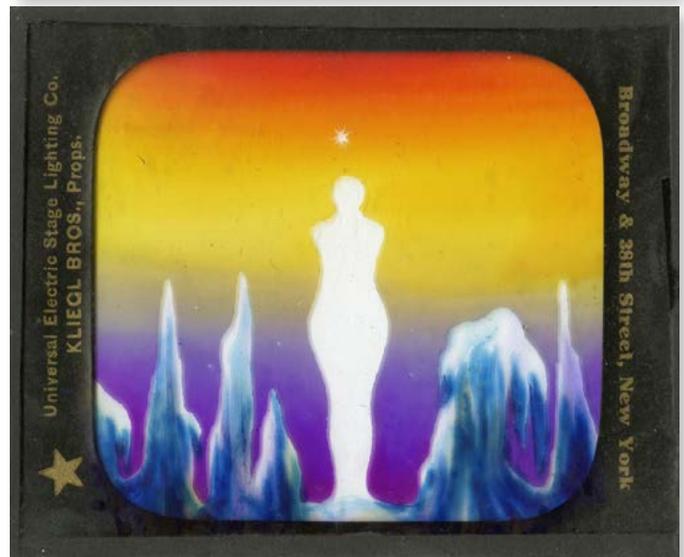
The late British author and magic lantern scholar, Dr. Mervyn Heard, was also an accomplished lanternist who performed around the world, including the Royal Opera House and the Tate Britain. In 2013, Dr. Heard must

have loved being immersed in hand-painted sceneries and pose lantern slides within TRI's Joel E. Rubin Collection. Named after Dr. Joel Rubin, a respected specialist in theatre lighting, planning, and equipment, the collection contains photographs, sales catalogs, brochures, microfilm, calendars, and glass slides. Dr. Rubin was executive vice president for more than twenty years at Kiegl Brothers Lighting, a company made famous for their innovations in the 1930s. Dr. Rubin's research led directly to an article published in *Theatre Design and Technology*, a publication of the United States Institute for Theatre Technology. The article centered on TRI's pose plastique glass slide collection, one of the largest in the world.

Just Scratching the Surface

The special collections at the Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee Theatre Research Institute represent the depth of human creativity while contextualizing American and world history. Many of the individual collections within the institute shed light on topics both broad and narrow, and are abundant enough to deserve their own book. Researchers have ample material to explore contemporary gender identity, pop culture, and the Harlem Renaissance's centennial for many years to come. But you don't need to be part of Ohio State or a professional scholar to visit. As part of a land-grant university with a mission to create knowledge to improve the well-being of Ohio and beyond, TRI encourages you to reach out, plan a visit, and see for yourself. You will be amazed.

Special thanks to Ohio State Head of Special Collections Nena Couch and Curator Beth Kattelman. Their knowledge of TRI, appreciation of donors, and excitement over connecting TRI with a broad community are truly inspiring.



The Ohio State University. Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee Theatre Research Institute. Joel E. Rubin Collection. Glass magic lantern slides. Hand-painted Kiegl Bros. "pose" slides. JOR.3.1.11. Slide A28 (top); JOR.3.1.35. Slide A84 (middle); JOR.3.1.39. Slide B3 (bottom).

2018 Ohioana Book Award Finalists

For lovers of reading, no summer is complete without delving into some great books, and here are thirty that should definitely be on your list: the 2018 Ohioana Book Award finalists!

First given in 1942, the Ohioana Book Awards are the second oldest state literary prizes in the nation and honor outstanding books in six categories by Ohio authors or about Ohio subjects.

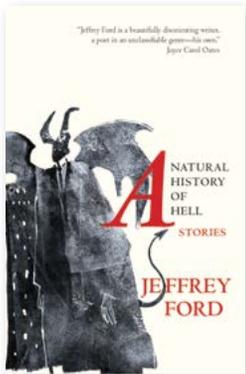
The year's finalists include a Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award winner; a winner of the Newbery Medal; recipients of Guggenheim and NEA Fellowships; a finalist for the Dayton Literary Peace Prize; winners of the IPPY, Massachusetts Book, Lambda Literary, and Spur Awards; and two recipients of the Cleveland Arts Prize.

Three authors are finalists for their debut books, while eight are past Ohioana Award winners. One finalist is the son of the Pulitzer Prize winning journalist who received the very first Ohioana Award in 1942.

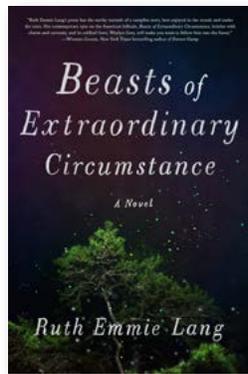
We'll announce the juried book award winners in July, and also the winner of the third annual Readers' Choice Award, selected in an online poll in June. The awards will be presented at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus on Thursday, October 18. You'll be reading more about all the winners in the fall issue of the Ohioana Quarterly!

The finalists are:

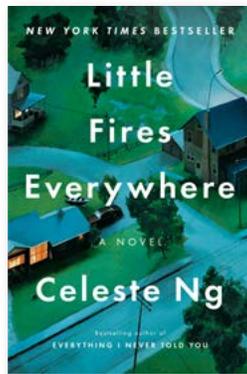
FICTION



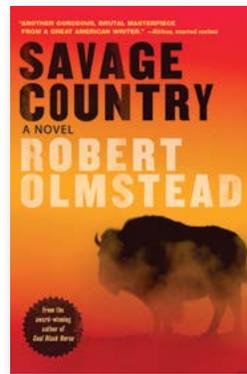
Jeffrey Ford



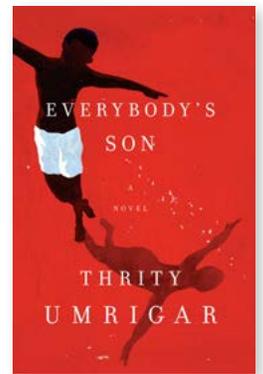
Ruth Emmie Lang



Celeste Ng

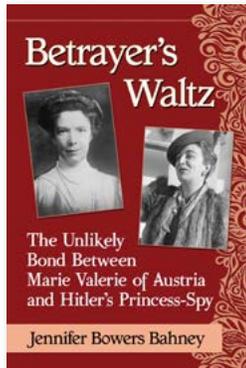


Robert Olmstead

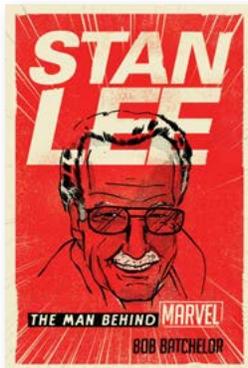


Thrity Umrigar

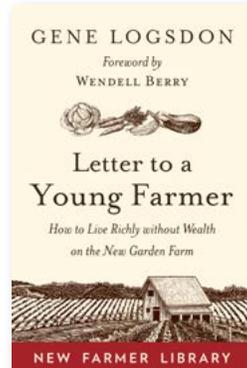
NONFICTION



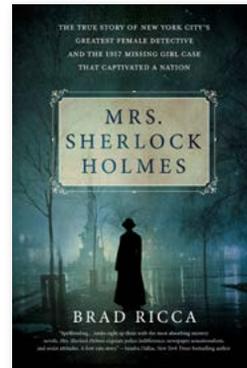
Jennifer Bowers Bahney



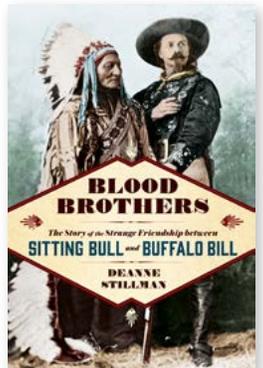
Bob Batchelor



Gene Logsdon

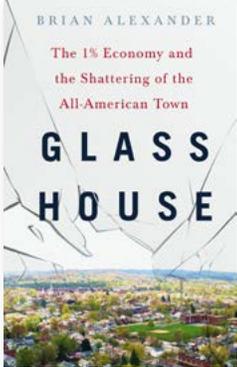


Brad Ricca

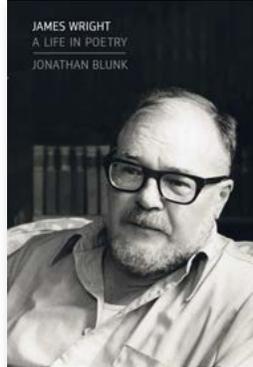


Deanne Stillman

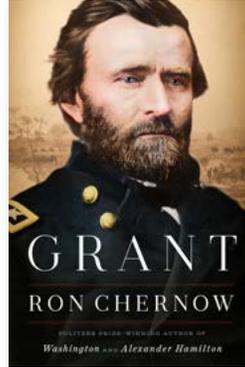
ABOUT OHIO/OHIOAN



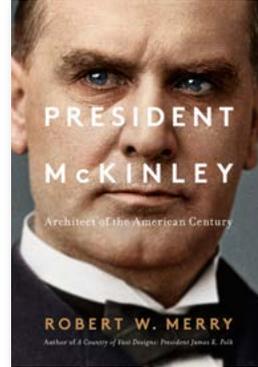
Brian Alexander



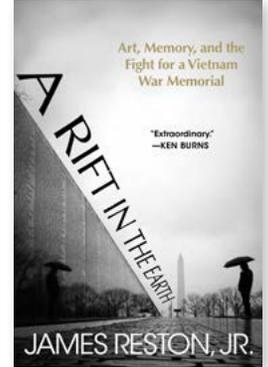
Jonathan Blunk



Ron Chernow

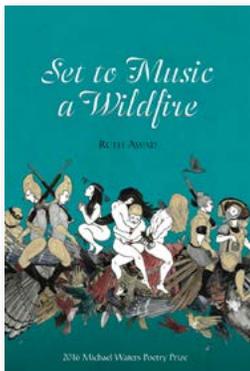


Robert W. Merry

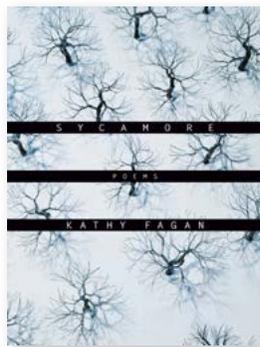


James Reston, Jr.

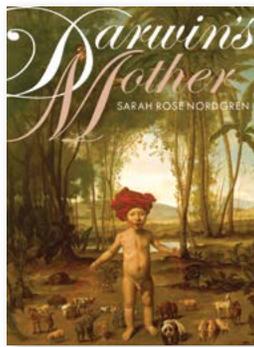
POETRY



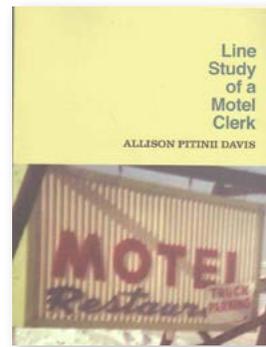
Ruth Awad



Kathy Fagan



Sarah Rose Nordgren

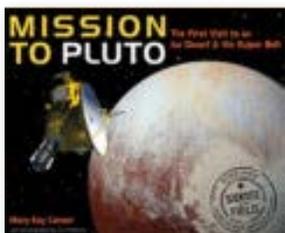


Allison Pitinii Davis

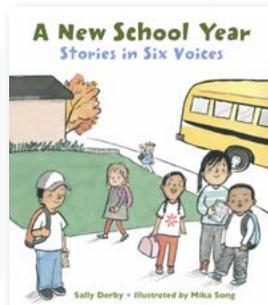


Maggie Smith

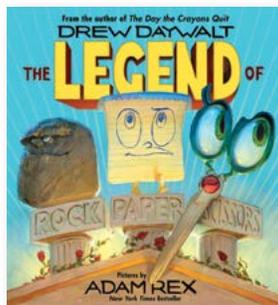
JUVENILE LITERATURE



Mary Kay Carson



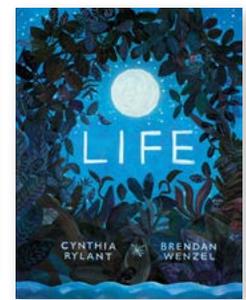
Sally Derby



Drew Daywalt
Adam Rex

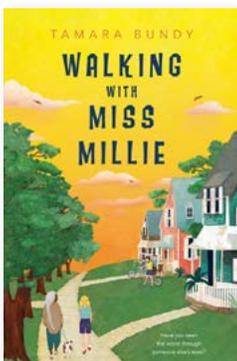


Shawn Dougherty



Cynthia Rylant

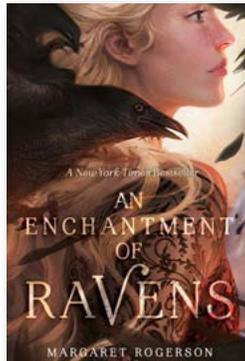
MIDDLE GRADE/YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE



Tamara Bundy



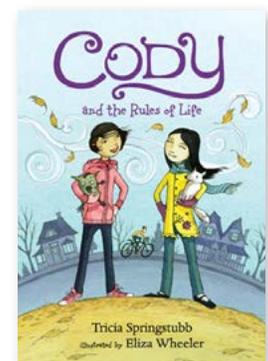
Erin McCahan



Margaret Rogerson



Julie K. Rubini



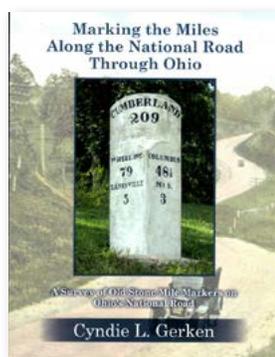
Tricia Springstubb

NONFICTION

Gerkin, Cindy L. *Marking the Miles Along the National Road Through Ohio: A Survey of Old Stone Mile Markers on Ohio's National Road.*

Muskingum Valley Archaeological Survey (Zanesville, OH)
2015. PB \$45.00.

Have you ever wanted to travel back in time? To see the rise and swell of the landscape as it was rather than it is now, dominated by housing developments, shopping outlets, and strip malls? Of course, we have convenience now when we drive – and speed. People make fifty-mile round-trip commutes every day and think nothing of it. But back when distances were marked by great stone monoliths, crossing the miles was a bit more of an undertaking.



You can travel back in time in Ohio with Cindy L. Gerkin's comprehensive listing of the stone mile markers on the old National Road, known variously over the years as State Route 1 or Route 40, but nowadays as the thing left behind by I-70.

More than a catalogue, *Marking the Miles* is a journey you can hold in your hands, east to west. It's also a tribute to the skilled artisans and civic-minded Ohioans of days past who worked to make transportation possible.

Our Ohio marking system began in Cumberland, Maryland, at a spot now commemorated by a Zero Mile Marker – a tall stone obelisk that sits across the street from the original point from which all subsequent miles were measured. And that's why the markers all bore the name CUMBERLAND on the top as a point of reference, followed by the number of miles away from that point.

Ms. Gerkin has collected and reproduced a bounty of old post cards that illustrate the road long before President

Eisenhower's modern Interstate system came into play. These pictures of cars, old tourist spots, charming bridges, and now-changed cityscapes never get old. It's especially fun to look for familiar streets and byways and compare the images from the past with what we can see now.

And Ms. Gerkin's sharp eyes have spotted the old stone markers that shared the photographer's frame when the original pictures were taken. The road markers are humble; nothing that anyone would have noticed at the time. But there they stand in the photos, like a forgotten relative in a family portrait; short ghosts standing sentinel on pathways we still travel.

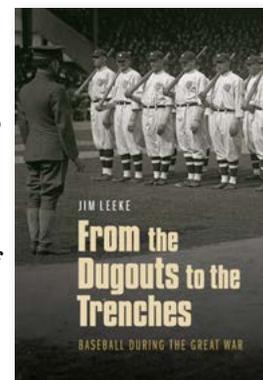
This detailed book considers design and material as well as the reconstruction and placement of new markers to continue to honor the heritage.

REVIEWED BY LESLIE BIRDWELL SHORTLIDGE, OHIOANA
QUARTERLY EDITOR

Leeke, Jim. *From the Dugouts to the Trenches: Baseball During the Great War.*

University of Nebraska Press (Lincoln, NE) 2017.
HB \$32.95.

The first active major league baseball player to enlist in the army for World War I was Henry Gowdy, from Columbus, Ohio, who played for the Boston Braves. His baseball feats paled in comparison to the act that turned him into an instant war hero. That's just one of the stories in *From the Dugouts to the Trenches: Baseball During the Great War* by Jim Leeke, who has deeply researched an overlooked area of baseball history.



Leeke has written other books on the sport, weaving baseball into the history of our times. America was at war with Germany and its war-partners during 1917-1919, years that were very disruptive to professional baseball, as well as the rest of the country.

He takes us through the war years, month after month as the magnates – as those professionally rich men who owned the ball clubs were called – struggled to appear patriotic even as most were reluctant to urge their players to enlist, as they wanted to keep playing a quality team that people would pay to see. At the beginning of the war, many players felt it their responsibility to fight for their country. The nation cheered for these special ballplayers who were in the first wave of enlistees, before the draft was instituted. The American League responded to the crisis and demonstrated their patriotism by having each team sponsor military drills for their players, so that the athletes would be ready for a possible call-to-duty. The public loved it, donating heavily by buying Liberty Bonds.

Leeke describes the stunts and gimmicks performed before games to get the crowd to donate, though one effort turned tragic when a biplane was hired to swoop down 500 feet over the stands and drop baseballs attached to Liberty Bond posters. Unfortunately, two baseballs caught in the controls and caused the plane to crash nearby. This book is full of small details that flesh out the big story of baseball's efforts to be both patriotic and financially viable.

Clark Griffith, the owner/manager of the Washington Senators, shipped tons of baseball equipment to bases in France, having raised much of the cost with a Bats and Ball Fund collected during major league games. The first load of bats, balls, and gloves sank to the bottom of the Atlantic when the ship was torpedoed by a German submarine. But Griffith persisted, sending another huge shipment of equipment to the boys “over there.”

Soldiers were urged to play ball while overseas, an activity promoted by military leaders and the YMCA to give the soldiers a recreational outlet from the war. Eventually baseball became so popular among military personnel that at one time thirty teams – composed mostly of rear-echelon players – were outfitted by Griffiths' Bat and Ball Fund to encourage participation. Eight teams in England played in the successful and wildly popular Anglo-American Baseball League, all composed of military personnel.

But as the war deepened, the effects were felt back home. Badly needed were men in two areas: soldiering overseas or working in domestic industrial plants that supported the war effort.

Some owners of huge plants began their own baseball leagues, such as the Steel League, hoping to get ballplayers to come and play for them, theoretically offering them jobs that didn't conflict with their baseball orientation.

In May of 1918, the military brass passed a new draft resolution that stated that all able-bodied men must “work or fight,” as it became known. It was aimed particularly at street bums, racetrack regulars, pool hall habitués, and other men not gainfully employed, but who were healthy enough to work or fight. As baseball players were in a “non-essential” business, they became subject to the draft.

Baseball owners were worried that if their players were subject to this new edict, their teams would be gutted, for most players were over 21 and under 31 and in good physical condition. The leagues hoped for a baseball exemption, but failed to receive it after drawn-out, contentious deliberations. Teams lost the majority of their players to the war plants or uniforms, thus diluting the quality of the games.

The previously strong minor league system of baseball was in far worse condition. Leeke is adept at describing the travails each club faced and the consequences to the leagues. At all levels of the minors, teams collapsed and leagues shut down for lack of players, as well as lack of public support.

Crowds dwindled as people working in war-support industries had less leisure time, and those fans of minor league teams began attending the industrial league games, whose teams had seduced some good players away from the minors, offering a better game than the remaining depleted minor league teams.

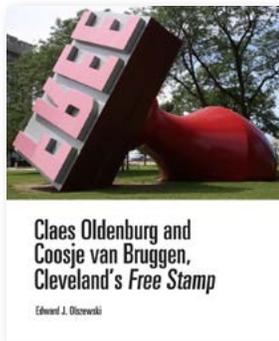
This book sports an index and period black and white photos. It also features a love of and a fascination with baseball. Combined with a strong sense of placing baseball in American history, it's an interesting read.

REVIEWED BY GEORGE COWMEADOW BAUMAN,
BOOKSELLER EMERITUS

Olszewski, Edward J. *Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen, Cleveland's Free Stamp.*

Ohio University Press (Athens, OH) 2017. HB \$69.95.

If you've seen the oversized rubber stamp sculpture, Free Stamp, in Cleveland, Ohio, and wondered how it came to be, you will enjoy reading Edward Olszewski's *Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen, Cleveland's Free Stamp*. The author is emeritus professor of art history at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. While the goal of Olszewski's book is to educate and enlighten the reader about the importance of the sculpture and the long process involved in bringing this work to the public, it is a remarkably concise and well-written book.



Olszewski traces the history of the Free Stamp sculpture, turning the story into a fascinating read. It not only provides a background into the artists, the genre of Pop Art and public works, it delves into the debates that surrounded the acceptance and installation of the sculpture.

Beginning with the original contract in 1985, the internationally known artists and the Sohio Oil Company entered into an agreement to build a sculpture outside their new headquarters at the Public Square in downtown Cleveland. It was neither a complicated project nor technically difficult to build. Getting the contract involved little discussion, very few sketches and models, and yet, ironically, it became one of the artists' most controversial projects and took the longest amount of time to complete. It was eventually built in 1992. It moved from the Public Square downtown to Willard Park, near City Hall. It began as a private, corporate sponsored commission and ended as a public art project. The design of the sculpture changed from an upright generic rubber stamp to one that is tipped, tilted on its side, displaying the word "FREE."

Olszewski's book covers the phases that marked these controversies and changes. He explains 1) the commission, 2) the artistic collaboration, 3) the

temporary rejection, 4) the relocation, 5) the reworking of the meaning, and 6) the eventual acceptance. Shortly after the contract was signed, Sohio was bought by British Petroleum (BP) which resulted in a reorganization of executives, some of whom were not in agreement with the project. After much controversy, the project was turned over to the city of Cleveland and the public.

When Free Stamp moved to the public sector, it was met with harsh judgement and criticism. In Cleveland, as is many American cities during this era, outdoor art "appeared" in town squares without a public voice in the process or the outcome. Once the public was given a voice on this project, they exercised it! This section of the book is particularly enlightening, as it explores how the controversy of the Free Stamp sculpture typifies the dilemma of "artistic freedom" in a public space, especially across a global landscape. The sculptors' choice to use the word "FREE" on the stamp contains multiple references and contributed to the controversy. Since the sculpture sits near City Hall, some see it as a statement of government "rubber stamping" business-government ventures. Others say it is the first thing an immigrant sees after leaving City Hall, reinforcing the notion of "freedom." During a symposium in Cleveland, the artists were tasked with defending the choice of the word as well as the choice of the object itself.

For a public work of art to be accepted, it needs to conform to community standards. Often the community needs to be brought along in the process so that they reach a common understanding or needs to be educated about the artists' intent and meaning. Over time, the Cleveland community has come to reach this understanding and the controversy has melted away.

Claes Oldenburg is known for his earlier works, the soft sculptures, which can be found in many of the world's finest museums. But he is best known for his numerous installations in public spaces. He has a public sculpture in nearly every important city in the world. Today, Cleveland's Free Stamp sculpture is considered among Oldenburg's finest works. It seems probable that Olszewski's book will elevate Cleveland's sculpture to an even higher place of recognition in the world of art.

REVIEWED BY PEG BARGA, OHIO EDUCATOR AND ARTIST

Westin Art Gallery (Alice F. and Harris K. Westin). *Signature Scheurer: The Art of Michael Scheurer.*

The Avery Group at Shapco Printing Inc. (Minneapolis, MN) 2017.

Artist Michael Scheurer has long been a Cincinnati favorite, though his work throughout his career has been shown in galleries and held in private collections from the Midwest to California to Sydney, Australia. The book, *Signature Scheurer: The Art of Michael Scheurer*, serves as a guide to understanding the breadth and depth of his work as presented by the Weston Art Gallery in Cincinnati, Ohio. The book is a monograph of the retrospective exhibit curated by the Westin Art Gallery and held in the Aronoff Center for the Arts in Cincinnati from April 28 through June 18, 2017.



Born and raised in Cincinnati, Michael Scheurer studied at the Art Academy of Cincinnati in his youth and earned his undergraduate degree from Xavier University. Later, he earned a degree in textile design at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City. During these years, he lived in Manhattan, worked in the Soho area, and acquired a life-long interest in antiques and art. While developing his career as a collage artist and lithographer, he also became a collector and connoisseur of antique textiles, exotic woven carpets, and modern and contemporary art.

Based in Cincinnati, he has produced art for many years and continues to amaze and enchant his fans with highly imaginative and surreal collages and assemblages. His work, at times, contains direct reflections of art history and is always strongly grounded in pure design. He often incorporates found objects that clearly illustrate the influence of the Surrealists on his work. His compositions and surface textural qualities reflect the sensibilities of the Cubists.

As an avid collector of such unique objects as posters, vintage beads, and cultural artifacts, he often embeds these elements within his compositions, elevating them to positions of honor within his work. Mr. Scheurer is

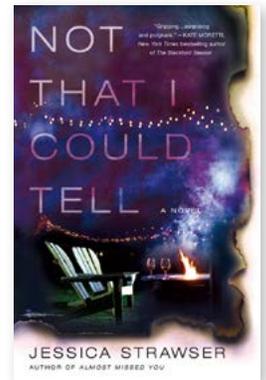
a distinctive Ohio-based artist who is finding his place among the more notable American artists and especially among those from Ohio.

REVIEWED BY PEG BARGA, OHIO EDUCATOR AND ARTIST

FICTION

Strawser, Jessica. *Not That I Could Tell.*

St. Martin's Press (New York, NY) 2018. HC \$26.99.



Monday morning dawns with blue skies and nice weather and, after a 'girls only' neighborhood gathering, one of the women, Kristin, is missing. She's not just missing but gone, disappeared without a trace, taking her life and children with her. Thus begins Jessica Strawser's second book, *Not That I Could Tell*.

The hunt is on for Kristin and her twins after her soon-to-be ex realizes she's gone. No one can remember the tail end of the party except that they were drinking a lot and woke to a miserable, rainy, Ohio Sunday. The neighborhood is alerted and the women of the two closest houses, Izzy and, most especially, Clara, spend the rest of the book trying to piece together the clues and their knowledge of Kristin.

The police put in a good effort, questioning everyone, digging into lives, and cataloging the habits and actions of neighbors, particularly the almost-ex, Paul, who's moved back into Kristin's house.

The plot is convoluted, and Kristin's actions are unclear. Almost every chapter begins with an italicized section that appears to be Kristin's ruminations, comments, diary, or... it's not clear. Suffice it to say, Kristin is only a character we hear being talked about; she isn't there. On the other hand, Clara and Izzy are the two most vocal and prominent characters who seek answers. Clara is particularly vigilant. The neighbors keep a better eye on one another and neighborhood happenings. Paul's continued presence is noticed by all, and they begin to wonder if he made his wife and children disappear.

While the plot was like her first book, *Almost Missed You*, the tension in this one is better and the mystery more intense.

I liked the fact that you really weren't certain if Kristin and her children were dead or had just disappeared. In fact, you don't know until the very, very end. The story otherwise is about neighbors, friendship, and trust.

REVIEWED BY MIRIAM KAHN, LIBRARIAN

Yocum, Robin. *A Welcome Murder.*

Seventh Street Books (Amherst, NY) 2017. PB \$15.95.

Columbus, Ohio author Robin Yocum has another hit on his hands. This penultimate book released last year features Johnny Earl, former high school baseball star, who suffers from poor luck after his ill-fated baseball career. After suffering an injured knee during his stint in professional baseball, Johnny Earl turns to the “get rich quick scheme” of selling cocaine. Of course, he gets caught. Earl serves seven years in prison then returns to Steubenville, Ohio. He plans to dig up his money stash, then beat it to points unknown. Of course, his plans go nowhere as one thing after another happens.



First, Rayce Daubner, an FBI informant, is murdered, and Earl is picked up for questioning; then his crazy cellmate, who is a white supremacist, turns up to take Earl's money. Nothing seems to go right for Earl.

Intertwined in Earl's tale are four other characters: Sheriff Francis Roberson, his wife, Allison, Matthew Vincent “Smoochie” Xenakis, and his wife Dena Marie Conchek Androski Xenakis. Dena Marie is madly in love with Johnny Earl and has few social boundaries when it comes to men.

The five characters tell this tale, weaving back and forth between the past and the murder of Daubner. It's a toss-up as to who has the best motive for murdering the lying, nasty, blackmailing, abusive Daubner. Yocum sets up this mystery so readers will scratch their heads and wonder who did it. And the answer isn't clear even at the end because everyone has a motive to murder the guy.

Yocum uses his years as an investigative reporter for the Columbus Dispatch to build plausibility into his tales of murder. He sets the stories in the small, dying towns along the Ohio River, places where he grew up and had boyhood adventures. When Yocum talks about his books, he also tells tales of life in small towns where everyone knows one another and where excelling high school sports is the way to get out. By the way, most of his characters play sports and talk about their best passes, pitches, and runs, even as grizzled old men.

Yocum brings small-town life in a rust-belt city to life. Told from five different first person perspectives, you can hear each character speak as they “jump” off the page. As the plot twists and turns, you'll find yourself entangled in deception, misdirection, and disbelief. The ending will surprise you, as any good mystery should.

Look for Yocum's current book, *A Perfect Shot*, the last book in this trilogy that began with *A Brilliant Death*.

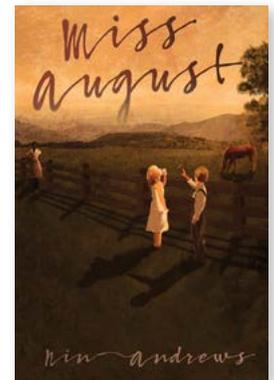
REVIEWED BY MIRIAM KAHN, LIBRARIAN

POETRY

Andrews, Nin. *Miss August.*

Cavankerry Press (Fort Lee, NJ) 2017. PB \$16.00.

Two contemporary poetry books come to mind when I think of solid thematic concepts – stories in verse that have sucked me in, kept me on the edge of my seat, or been real page turners: Jeffrey Harrison's *Incomplete Knowledge* (Four Way Books, 2006) and Martha Silano's *Blue Positive* (Steel Toe Books, 2006).



Harrison explores, among many emotions, a human helplessness when reckoning with a brother's suicide. I only truly appreciate Part One of the book when I enter the anguish of Part Two. I feel the same with Silano. I enter the book as a clueless male with no idea, embarrassingly, what blue positive could be referring to and continue to lean forward with jaw dropped until finally, in the end, I'm able to regain a greater sense of empathy.

That's why I read poetry – the genre that can surprise me or pull an emotion right out of my chest and at the same time force me to reckon with who I am.

Cue *Miss August's* entrance. Nin Andrews, again, has encouraged me to be a better man. In a social climate of #MeToo, as a white male, I feel awkward entering the conversations. I fear the notion that whatever I say might be the wrong thing to say, might be the privileged white male thing to say. Andrews has been able to sit me down, twice, and with a smile say, “just listen – all you have to do right now is listen, really listen.”

Andrews follows up her award-winning book, *Why God Is a Woman*, with another contemporary masterpiece. Not only does Andrews prove herself a modern master of prose poems, but she does so by writing from the first-person perspectives of three complex characters: Mae Dee, Gil, and Sarah Jane. Descriptions of these characters are usually necessary from reviewer to potential reader. Here, I refrain. The mystery and evolution of these three Southerners growing and struggling through the 1950s and 1960s is the adventure, joy, and horror of reading *Miss August*. To label Andrews's creation would be to cheapen the reading experience. Nonetheless, the detail, voice, and reserved anguish of the three characters create an instant connection and an accessibility to the Southern world I haven't felt since I was a kid reading Truman Capote.

The first masterstroke I noticed from Andrews's writing was her, what I referred to in my head, one-line zingers. As I fell into a meditation of wonderful dialogue and the innocent rhythms of storytelling, Andrews would warn me that I should prepare for the darkness ahead. Mae Dee narrated “The Day You [Gil] Was Born” and as I connect to the miraculous visual of a child's birth, Mae Dee says, “I thinks to myself, That baby done changed his mind. He gone on back to God. Just like them other babies done.” In the next poem “My Story,” Gil describes his dull days with “My pony, Annabel, that I didn't ride.” In “Meeting Sarah Jane,” Gil introduces his father and when Gil says, “My father always made children and colored folks sit in the back seat,” I wasn't surprised. Of course, racism will be a theme. A few lines later Gil says, “he was always trying to make me play with boys and calling me a sissy.” This turn, for me, was not so obvious and that's when I had to know how this story ends. These “zingers” aren't forced – they are organic interruptions in the middle of deep meditations.

The other masterstroke is the architecture of her work. Within poems, like “Caleb Johnson's Grandfather,” lines are slowly placed to build a structure of anticipation. The early poems themselves, from sections one and two, rely on each other, building a foundation that supports the wonder that is the last three sections of *Miss August*. Andrews not only cares about the brick, but she seems to be conscious of the mortar – the spaces between words, the spaces between lines, and the spaces between poems. Everything counts and every detail lives in relationship with one another. Andrews is a poet with an interest in God, and her greatest curiosity to understand God is her own acceptance as Nin Andrews the book creator.

The story's secrets and darkness continue to expose themselves, from “Them Parties” through “Sara Jane's Swimsuit,” “Tadpoles,” and “Life after Death.” By the end I felt I had listened, and I felt I had listened well. The pain of the American black experience. The pain of the American women's experience. The pain of the American LGBTQ experience.

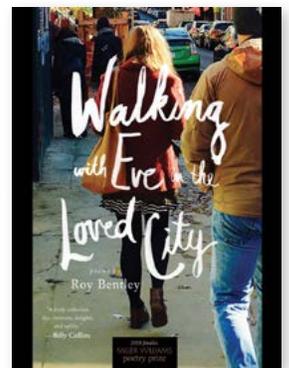
Miss August is authentic and it doesn't flinch. Miss August can do what elections and political parties and the current American landscape seem to fail at doing – to educate us about the marginalized; to exalt empathy.

REVIEWED BY J. M. GREEN, WRITER AND LIBRARIAN,
XAVIER UNIVERSITY

Bentley, Roy. *Walking with Eve in the Loved City*.

University of Arkansas Press (Fayetteville, AR) 2018.
PB \$17.95.

If ever “heaven on earth” served as a controlling metaphor for a poetry collection, *Walking with Eve in the Loved City* is that collection. Along with being one of the best poetry collection titles of 2018, Roy Bentley's latest book is a testament to heaven and earth co-existing simultaneously or “...this unknown buried in the known,” as fellow Appalachian poet Irene McKinney refers to it.



From the very first, the poems bring together the sacred and the profane: a dove lands in Led Zeppelin vocalist Robert Plant’s hand at a concert; a seductive Eve “[holds] the keys to the kingdom” in the book’s title poem; a suspended Florida State quarterback insists that he’s God; among many other instances throughout the book. But more than juxtaposing the sacred and profane, the poems accomplish a task that Bentley aptly describes near the end of “God Shows Up in Iowa”:

....*There’s a word—*
that word is godding—for elevating the everyday to the
status of divine.
And maybe that’s what I’m doing....

There’s no “maybe” about it. In fact, one of Bentley’s most noticeable gifts, as the book’s flap copy points out, is “using the power of narrative...to highlight how people matter”—itself a form of “godding.”

Readers of the Dayton, Ohio, native’s previous collections—*Boy in a Boat*, *Any One Man*, *The Trouble with a Short Horse in Montana*, and *Starlight Taxi*—will recognize many of the people and places in *Walking with Eve in the Loved City*: Bentley’s ancestors; Dayton’s Comanche Drive; Sonny and Bobby Osborne; Roy’s Shell Station; Jupiter, Florida; and Fleming-Neon, Kentucky. All are elevated through the loving crucible of memory and language to divine status.

And if heaven and earth share the same real estate in Bentley’s poems, so, too, do the dead and the living. They intermingle in the memory, in the body, and on the page—or sometimes mystically switch places, as in “Black Radio”: “Maybe we’re dead and the trespass of living rises like so much smoke.”

Roy Bentley’s carefully crafted but accessible poems are convincing proof that all poetry may be posthumous, in that a poem attempts to embody the unknown—another word for death. Bentley carries that one step further in “Astonished Man,” which reckons with a soul becoming visible as it passes from this realm to the next. The last lines of this poem could stand as a perfect definition for both poetry and the act of creation: the “fact/of that display forcing eyes to open, at least one/truth given a context it lacked until that instant.”

Walking with Eve in the Loved City is just such a display.

REVIEWED BY KATE FOX, POET AND WRITER

YOUNG ADULT

Hager, Krysten Lindsay. *Dating the It Guy*.

Clean Reads, 2017. PB \$17.99.

Oh, the world is fraught with both friends who are true and faithful and those who will do everything to undermine your happiness and life. *Dating the It Guy* proves that some things never change, particularly in the love and friendship stage of life. Finding your “right” partner and friends is always exciting and scary at the same time, and that’s what Emme and Brendon must come to realize.



Emme’s “right” guy is Brendon, the IT guy for her high school. She’s a sophomore, he’s a senior. She has a lot on her mind, including a grandma whose health is failing and a grandpa whose dementia is getting worse. He’s the senator’s son, handsome, of course, and has girls fawning and falling all over him. Through thick and thin, good days and some pretty tough experiences, Emme and Brendon must learn how to communicate and trust. Can they stay together???

Emme has more than Brendon on her plate. She’s shaky on trust since her last boyfriend was also dating his ex at the same time. Top that off with two girlfriends, one trustworthy and one who loves to play mind games. Emme has some male friends who are genuine friends and just want to be there for her. As if Emme wasn’t stressed out enough, her grandma has a stroke. It’s a tight-knit family that’s supportive and loving through all the emotional stress. What Emme needs is a boyfriend she can trust who is also caring and thoughtful.

Brendon, the senator’s son, takes on a lot of responsibilities, and he’s always in the spotlight. He’s hooked on Emme yet pulled in many directions, as he’s overcommitted at school and with his father’s career. Can he make time for Emme? Why does he spend so much time with his ex-girlfriend? Of course, there’s drama in Brendon’s life, too, but it plays a lesser role in this tale.

Hager takes her time with this tale, letting the characters work out their emotions and their trust issues. It's an emotional book about life, life for dating teens, and about family. There's a lot of teenage angst but maybe that's normal angst when you meet the "right" guy. Hager's writing pulls you into the story and the characters. Readers of any age will relate to stressful relationships, love, loss, and friendship.

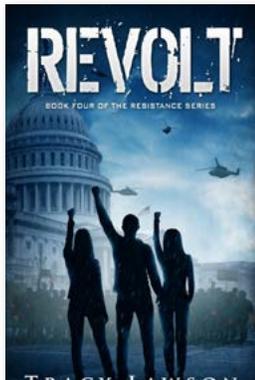
While the genre is romance (no sex), the secondary themes are trust, family, and relationships. This book is perfect for teens.

REVIEWED BY MIRIAM KAHN, LIBRARIAN

Lawson, Tracy. *Revolt: Book Four in the Resistance Series.*

DysCovered Publishing, 2017. PB \$12.95.

In the future, a corrupted scientist has created a company called the OCSD that is so powerful even the government has a hard time changing it. Madalyn Davis, the owner and creator of the OCSD, has made it her personal mission to get everybody linked. A link is a tracking device that she created for children, but she also wants to use it on adults. The opposing side is called the Resistance. Will the Resistance be able to stop the link, or will everybody have to live under the control of the OCSD?



As the story begins, Carreen Catcher is under the impression that her former love, Tom Bailey, is the enemy. Carreen has just escaped from being tortured by the OCSD. Atari is with Carreen and Tom, but is hiding the knowledge that he can control the link. Jaycee is with a resistance member named Lara, who is a friend of Jaycee's mom, so Jaycee convinces Lara to tell her where her mother is. Lara tells her and says that Jaycee will be able to meet her in the morning. After Jaycee meets her mother, she still wants to see more of her. So, even after Lara's warning, Jaycee visits her mother, but she gets caught by a marshal and ends up getting linked. Tom is earning Carreen's trust and is beginning to realize that Atari is evil. When they confront Atari about it, he shoots Tom and activates the link.

Revolt, which is the fourth book in the *Resistance* series, is mesmerizing. I haven't read the first three books in the series, but I was still able to understand the plot of the fourth book because of the flashbacks that the author included. It is well-written, with amazing descriptions. Sometimes it was poignant, and other times it was exuberant. Because of off-color language, I would recommend this book to older readers who are allowed to watch PG-13 movies, but overall, it was extremely enjoyable.

REVIEWED BY ISABELLA MCINTYRE, MS. KESSLER'S CLASS, FORM IV, COLUMBUS SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

McCahan, Erin. *The Lake Effect.*

Dial Books (New York, NY) 2017. HC \$17.99.

It's the summer after Briggs Henry's senior year of high school, and he's landed a job near one of his favorite places in the world – the shore of Lake Michigan. The job is being a live-in personal assistant for the elderly Mrs. Bozhitch, or Mrs. B for short. Briggs imagines a summer full of enjoying the lake water, summer sun, and Mrs. B's extravagant, waterfront Victorian mansion. What Briggs comes to realize when he starts is that Mrs. B is not like the other senior citizens he's used to – especially not like his stuffy Grandma Ruth. Soon enough, Briggs is escorting Mrs. B to a seemingly endless series of funerals, helping her find the perfect paint color for her upstairs bedrooms, and discovering just how much he genuinely enjoys her company. Briggs gets more than he bargained for outside of his job, too, while he navigates issues with his family at home, and grows closer to Mrs. B's mysterious and beautiful neighbor Abigail.



The Lake Effect is an enjoyable read from start to finish. It's full of charm, wit, and unexpected sweetness. Briggs is a young man who has been focused on wealth and stability ever since weathering his parent's financial troubles while he was in middle school. He is always finding a new job or hobby to occupy his time and help him get ahead in life. But as Briggs' love of the lakeshore implies, there's a part of him that really enjoys the simpler things in life, as well. With the help of Abigail,

Mrs. B, and a collection of lively friends that Briggs makes at the shore, he starts to realize there might be more to life than having a high earning potential.

The Lake Effect really shines when it comes to characterization. Many of the book's best moments come when Briggs is conversing with the spunky Mrs. B, or his independent and seemingly hardened Grandmother Ruth. The focus of the story – that happiness and value come from places and situations you don't expect – is realistically and wonderfully crafted. Briggs' journey of self-discovery is a believable one and is a lot of fun to follow. Familial relationships, as well as friendship and blossoming romance, are handled very tenderly, in a way that many readers will be able to identify with. *The Lake Effect* is a wonderful, feel-good read, perfect to take along for a day on the beach.

REVIEWED BY MORGAN PETERS, OHIOANA PROGRAM COORDINATOR

MIDDLE GRADE

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *In Over Their Heads*.

Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers (New York, NY) 2017. PB \$7.99.

Our class read *In Over Their Heads*, by Margaret Peterson Haddix, and we loved it. My favorite character has to be Erin. She is fierce, and I liked when she pretended to be a robot so she wouldn't get caught. Some people got confused about switching points of view, and others didn't, since each chapter would be from someone else's point of view. To give the reader clues, Haddix labeled the chapters by the characters' names.



Sometimes we would stop reading at a cliffhanger and wanted to read on. For example, when Jackson, a robot, got caught in the snow trying to save another robot, we didn't know if he would survive the severe cold and snow.

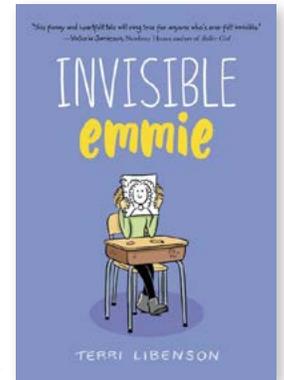
Overall *In Over Their Heads* is a great book. I would recommend it to ages eight and up, and to anyone who loves science-fiction.

REVIEWED BY COLLEEN HERNON, FORM IV, COLUMBUS SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Libenson, Terri. *Invisible Emmie*.

Balzer & Bray (New York, NY) 2017. PB \$10.99.

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times – at least for two polar-opposite girls at Lakefront Middle School. Katie is the most popular girl in seventh grade, with great looks, perfect grades, and a personality that wins over everyone she meets. She's also everything that shy, quiet Emmie wants to be. For Emmie, middle school is a miserable tongue-tying, stomach-knotting experience, where she'd rather disappear into the floor than be called on to answer a math question in class. But everything changes for both girls when a humiliating note written by Emmie ends up in the wrong hands.



To her utter horror, Emmie finds herself the center of attention, with no textbook big enough to hide her embarrassment behind. Meanwhile, Katie starts slipping out of the spotlight and discovers what life is like on the sidelines. Will their worlds ever return to normal, or is this shift just what each girl needed all along?

Invisible Emmie is the debut graphic novel by Terri Libenson, creator of the award-winning, internationally syndicated comic strip, *The Pajama Diaries*. Equal parts hilarious and gut-wrenching, the novel is told from the dual-perspective of Emmie and Katie. Libenson's illustrations and words work wonderfully together, making the novel a charming, quick-paced read. By literally seeing each narrator's world on the pages – Katie's bright and colorful life, in contrast to Emmie's sparse, dull existence – readers find themselves sympathizing with both girls. Libenson keeps the plot fresh with a big twist at the end, making readers want to go back and read the novel over again. With so much care and wit put into every page, readers will surely find something new to uncover on the second – and third, and fourth! – readings.

With a fun, authentic voice, delightful illustrations, and a heart-warming story, *Invisible Emmie* is the perfect novel for those finding their way through middle school or revisiting those bittersweet years in their memory.

REVIEWED BY KATHRYN POWERS, OHIOANA OFFICE MANAGER

CHILDREN'S

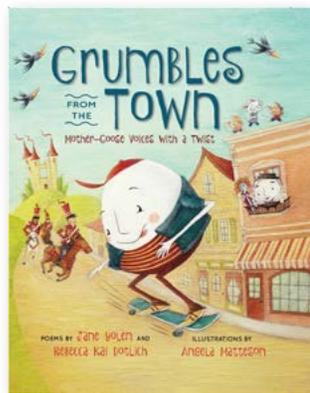
Yolen, Jane, and Rebecca Kai Dotlich.

Illustrations by Angela Matteson.

Grumbles from the Town – Mother Goose Voices with a Twist.

Word Song (Honesdale, PA) 2016. HC \$17.95.

Grumbles from the Town – Mother Goose Voices with a Twist, by Jane Yolen and Rebecca Kai Dotlich and illustrated by Angela Matteson, is a fun twist on the classic nursery rhymes that most children learn when they are younger. Some of these rhymes are really well known, like “Humpty Dumpty” and “Little Miss Muffet.” Others are not well known, such as “I Am the Sock” and “Little Bird from a Branch.”



These rhymes can be witty, strange, and delightful. For example, in “Three Blind Mice,” the mice explain to the readers that they were not blind, but “near of sight and wore thick glasses day and night.” They retell their story, and they tell the readers that they can rewrite their own story to change the ending and be safe, which the mice do to save themselves from the carving knife.

The original version of each of these nursery rhymes is included in the back of this picture book. Also included is a description about the true meaning of the original nursery rhymes. It is a fun way to learn about the history behind these rhymes.

We would recommend *Grumbles from the Town – Mother Goose Voices with a Twist* for all ages. It is a fun read.

REVIEWED BY CARYS WEBB, SCARLETT KATZ, ALICIA LONSER, AND LOLA LEWIN, FORM IV, COLUMBUS SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Book List

The following books were added to Ohioana's collection between March and May, 2018. Look for them at your local library or bookstore!

NONFICTION

Bard, Ella Mae, ed. *Celebrating 100 Years: The Methodist Parsonage, 1905-2005*. Cenetary Methodist Church (Granville, OH) 2005. PB \$10.00.

A pamphlet published by the Cenetary Methodist Church in Granville, Ohio, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the parsonage.

Batchelor, Bob. *Stan Lee: The Man Behind Marvel*. Rowman & Littlefield (Lanham, MD) 2017. HC \$22.95.

The Amazing Spider-Man. The Incredible Hulk. The Invincible Iron Man. These are just a few of the iconic superheroes to emerge from the mind of Stan Lee. From the mean streets of Depression-era New York City to recipient of the National Medal of Arts, Lee's life has been almost as remarkable as the thrilling adventures he spun for decades. Candid, authoritative, and utterly absorbing, this is a biography of a man who dreamed of one day writing the Great American Novel, but ended up doing so much more – changing American culture by creating new worlds that have entertained generations of readers.

Beckman, Wendy. Illus. by Alison Ranieri. *8 Wonders of Cincinnati*. History Press (Charleston, SC) 2017. PB \$21.99.

Wendy Beckman and illustrator Allison Ranieri celebrate the city's

eight wonders – architecture, art, commerce, food, customs, geography, history, and people. The Cincinnati Music Hall stands as an architectural masterpiece. The Red Stockings made history as the first professional baseball team. Remnants of marine fossils from the Ordovician period remind residents that the city was once under water. Limitless local varieties of goetta (a German breakfast sausage) range from family recipes to trendy café dishes. And the city birthed such trailblazers as track and field star DeHart Hubbard, the first African American to win an Olympic gold medal in an individual event.

Brehm, Victoria. *White Squall: Sailing the Great Lakes*. Wayne State University Press (Detroit, MI) 2018. PB \$29.95.

From the Native American water monster that raised canoe-killing storms to thousand-foot cargo ships, the Great Lakes have inspired autobiography, folksong, poetry, and fiction about some of the most beautiful, most dangerous waters in the world. In the words of the men and women who lived through them, here are the dangers and triumphs, the ghosts and mysteries, the daredevil risks and losses that span the worlds of Native journeys, wars on the lakes, early canoe travel, schooner work, yacht racing, steamer travel, and the great bulk carriers. Their accounts are edited with introductions and technical explanations, illustrated with photographs and drawings, and accompanied by notes and a glossary of sailing terms.

Cenetary Methodist Church. *150 Years: Methodism in Granville, 1810-1960*. Cenetary Methodist Church (Granville, OH) 1960. PB \$10.00.

A pamphlet published for the 150th anniversary of the Cenetary Methodist Church in Granville.

Cenetary Methodist Church. *Cenetary United Methodist Church: 1810-2010*. Cenetary Methodist Church (Granville, OH) 2010. PB \$10.00.

A pamphlet published by the Cenetary Methodist Church in Granville, Ohio, celebrating the 200th anniversary of the church.

Cenetary Methodist Church. *Cenetary United Methodist Church: Two Centuries of Methodist Ministers in Granville, OH*. Cenetary Methodist Church (Granville, OH) 2017. HC \$10.00.

A history of the ministers who have served the Cenetary United Methodist Church in Granville, Ohio, over its 200 years.

Cenetary Methodist Church. *The Circles of Cenetary*. Cenetary Methodist Church (Granville, OH) 2007. PB \$10.00.

A pamphlet published by the Cenetary Methodist Church in Granville, Ohio, celebrating the women and women's groups who have served the church throughout its history.

Cenetary Methodist Church. *A History of Methodism in Granville: 1810-2000*. Cenetary Methodist Church (Granville, OH) 2000. PB \$10.00.

A compilation of pamphlets

published by the Cenetary Methodist Church in Granville, Ohio, celebrating the history of the church.

Dabakis, Melissa. *A Sisterhood of Sculptors: American Artists in Nineteenth-Century Rome*. Pennsylvania State University Press (University Park, PA) 2014. PB \$29.95.

Between 1850 and 1876, a community of talented women sought creative refuge in Rome and developed successful professional careers as sculptors. Some of these women have become well known in art-historical circles: Harriet Hosmer, Edmonia Lewis, Anne Whitney, and Vinnie Ream. The reputations of others have remained, until now, buried in the historical record: Emma Stebbins, Margaret Foley, Sarah Fisher Ames, and Louisa Lander. At its core, *A Sisterhood of Sculptors* is concerned with the gendered nature of creativity and expatriation. As an interdisciplinary examination of femininity and creativity, this book provides models for viewing and interpreting nineteenth-century sculpture and for analyzing the gendered status of the profession.

Dawidziak, Mark. *Theodore Roosevelt for Nature Lovers: Adventures with America's Great Outdoorsman*. Lyons Press (Guilford, CT) 2017. HC \$17.95. In addition to being a politician, frontiersman, and rancher, Theodore Roosevelt was an enthusiastic hunter who fought passionately for conservation. He played a significant role in setting aside land for the national parks. He participated in expeditions to benefit the New York Museum of Natural History and the Smithsonian, and while in the White House, his children enjoyed the

company of a menagerie of ponies, cats, dogs, lizards, rabbits, a macaw, snakes, and guinea pigs. *Theodore Roosevelt for Nature Lovers* is a collection of delightful anecdotes – including the famous story about the “Teddy” bear – that reveal the Bull Moose’s ongoing fascination with the natural world.

Dawson, Virginia P. *To Search and to Serve: A History of the First Unitarian Church of Cleveland, 1867-2017*. First Unitarian Church of Cleveland (Cleveland, OH) 2017. PB \$20.00.

As part of their 150th Anniversary celebration in 2017, First Unitarian Church of Cleveland commissioned a book documenting the church’s past. Written by historian Virginia P. Dawson, *To Search and to Serve* is an 85-page history not only of First Unitarian, but of Unitarian Universalism in Cleveland.

Fittrakis, Bob, and Harvey Wasserman. *As Goes Ohio: Election Theft Since 2004*. Columbus Institute for Contemporary Journalism (CICJ) Books (Columbus, OH) 2008. PB \$19.95.

As goes Ohio, so goes our nation politically. This book is a compilation of investigative reports from Ohio’s leading online investigative newspaper – freepress.org. Award-winning journalists Bob Fittrakis and Harvey Wasserman testified before Congress on the evidence of election fraud and theft following the 2004 presidential election. For the first time, their post-election online investigative reports are in print. Revelations regarding the CIA’s connection to “computer voting,” the criminal destruction of voting records, and the bizarre world of Ohio politics is gathered here.

Fittrakis, Bob, Harvey Wasserman, and Gerry Bello. *Corporate Vote Theft & the Future of American Democracy: Expanded and Revised to Include the 2012 Presidential Election*. Columbus Institute for Contemporary Journalism (CICJ) Books (Columbus, OH) 2013. PB \$19.95.

A compilation of writings from the investigative website freepress.org that sheds light on the role of private partisan for-profit corporations that are now programming the software and providing the hardware for U.S. elections. This volume is revised and updated from the earlier book, *Will the GOP Steal America's 2012 Election?* and includes new revelations on Mitt Romney’s ties to the Hart Intercivic voting machine company, the secret software patches installed on voting tabulators in Ohio just prior to the 2012 presidential election, and the reasons behind Karl Rove’s bizarre 2012 election night meltdown on Fox TV.

Fittrakis, Bob. *The Fittrakis Files: Cops, Cover-Ups, & Corruption*. Columbus Institute for Contemporary Journalism (CICJ) Books (Columbus, OH) 2009. PB \$15.00.

Investigative reporter Bob Fittrakis exposes the corruption that law enforcement officials and politicians cover up, tying many of Ohio’s leading figures to scandals.

Fittrakis, Bob. *The Fittrakis Files: Free Byrd & Other Cries for Justice*. Columbus Alive Publishing (Columbus, OH) 2003. PB \$15.00. Bob Fittrakis’ investigation of the execution of John William Byrd Jr., convicted of a crime he insisted he did not commit.

Fitrakis, Bob. *The Fitrakis Files: A Schoolhouse Divided*. Columbus Alive Publishing (Columbus, OH) 2003. PB \$15.00.
Award-winning investigative reporter and watchdog Bob Fitrakis sinks his teeth into the inequalities of public education.

Fitrakis, Bob. *The Fitrakis Files: Spooks, Nukes, & Nazis*. Columbus Alive Publishing (Columbus, OH) 2003. PB \$15.00.
In classic muckraking tradition, Bob Fitrakis chews apart government incompetence and corruption, spooky CIA shenanigans, and the KKK, to name just a few. A collection for anyone who believes they're not likely to hear the whole truth from "official" sources.

Fitrakis, Bob. *The Fitrakis Files: Star Wars, Weather Mods, & Full Spectrum Dominance*. Columbus Institute for Contemporary Journalism (CICJ) Books (Columbus, OH) 2005. PB \$15.00.
In this collection of investigative reports, Fitrakis exposes the U.S. Military's plans for "full spectrum dominance," the race to militarize space, and efforts to use nature as a weapon of mass destruction.

Fitrakis, Bob. *The Idea of Democratic Socialism in America and the Decline of the Socialist Party*. Columbus Institute for Contemporary Journalism (CICJ) Books (Columbus, OH) 2007. PB \$14.95.
Investigative journalist Bob Fitrakis' perspective on democratic socialism in America.

Fitrakis, Bob, and Harvey Wasserman. *The Strip & Flip Disaster of America's Stolen*

Elections: Updated "Trump" Edition of Strip & Flip Selection of 2016. Columbus Institute for Contemporary Journalism (CICJ) Books (Columbus, OH) 2017. PB \$19.95.
Even the conservatives called the first edition of *The Strip and Flip Selection of 2016* a must-read. This new edition adds additional essays including post-2016 election information concerning Jill Stein's historic recount of the key three states with suspicious numbers in the general election. The book also includes new commentary and analysis on U.S. elections, Russian hacking, and the Trump presidency.

Foster, Joni. *When Normal Blew Up: The Story of the People Who Died and the People Who Lived On*. Red Raku Press (Circleville, OH) 2017. PB \$14.00.
In 1967, in the small town of Circleville, Ohio, a man walked into an old-fashioned drug store on a busy Saturday and laid a smoking package on the pharmacy counter in the back. He shouted for everyone to leave, he had a bomb. The store owner grabbed the package and ran down the back hallway. Fifty years later, Joni Foster, who was nine at the time and daughter to the pharmacist who died, began a quest to find out in detail who these people were and what exactly happened. The story is a tragedy, a history lesson on the slow, painful emancipation of women, and ultimately a loving tribute to the families trying to live normal lives.

Gold, David M., ed. *Slavery and Scandal: The Ohio Gubernatorial Debates of 1859*. Marielle Press (Bexley, OH) 2018. PB \$19.99.
Slavery and Scandal: The Ohio

Gubernatorial Debates of 1859 presents transcripts of and newspaper reports on the series of debates between Ohio's Republican and Democratic candidates for governor on the eve of the Civil War. Includes an introduction on the candidates and the issues and an epilogue on the outcome and subsequent debates in Ohio.

Hague, Richard. *Earnest Occupations: Teaching, Writing, Gardening, & Other Local Work*. Bottom Dog Press (Huron, OH) 2018. PB \$18.00.
A memoir by noted poet Richard Hague, expressed in a series of essays exploring the humans, animals, places, and occupations that make up a community.

Herbert, Jeffrey G. *Index of Hamilton County, Ohio Reported Court Records, 1870-1879*. Hamilton County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society (Cincinnati, OH) 2018. PB \$39.00.
This index contains the names of individuals in more than 28,250 court cases reported in the *Cincinnati Enquirer* between 1870 and 1879. Many of the records housed in the Hamilton County courthouse were destroyed by a riot and subsequent fire in March 1884. This index attempts to recreate as many court cases as possible from daily summaries reported in this local newspaper, which can provide valuable information to the family history researcher.

Herbert, Jeffrey G. *Hamilton County, Ohio Roman Catholic Baptism Records Early - 1849*. Hamilton County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society (Cincinnati, OH) 2018. PB \$29.00.

This index contains the names of more than 17,500 Roman Catholic baptisms recorded in Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Ohio, prior to January 1850. The sources for this work are the microfilm copies of baptismal registers that were kept by individual parish churches and are stored at the Archives of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

Hodson, Jan, Janice Huwe, and Linda Phillips, eds. *Growing Up in Athens: A Collection of Memories*. Orange Frazer Press (Wilmington, OH) 2017. HC \$46.73.

Spanning 100 years, this hardcover premium book is full of photos and recollections of Athenians who speak of the era before cars to the present decade. In the voices of people who grew up here, *Growing Up in Athens* brings you the essence of this one small town nestled in the hills of Southeastern Ohio.

Johnston, Christopher. *Shattering Silences: Strategies to Prevent Sexual Assault, Heal Survivors, and Bring Assailants to Justice*. Skyhorse Publishing (New York, NY) 2018. HC \$24.99.

Every two minutes someone in the U.S. is sexually assaulted, and each year there are nearly 300,000 victims of sexual assault. But victims are no longer silent, and new practices by police, prosecutors, nurses, and rape crisis professionals are resulting in more compassionate treatment of victims and more aggressive prosecution of perpetrators. This is the first book to cover these new approaches.

Kerman, Piper. *Orange Is the New Black: My Year in a Women's Prison*. Spiegel & Grau (New York, NY) 2011. PB \$16.00.

Convicted and sentenced to fifteen months at the federal correctional facility in Danbury, Connecticut, the well-heeled Smith College alumna is now inmate #11187-424 – one of the millions of people who disappear “down the rabbit hole” of the American penal system. From her first strip search to her final release, Kerman learns to navigate this strange world with its strictly enforced codes of behavior and arbitrary rules. She meets women from all walks of life, who surprise her with small tokens of generosity, hard words of wisdom, and simple acts of acceptance. Inspiration for the multi-award-winning TV show.

Lanese, Laura, Janet Shailer, and Kelli Milligan Stammen. *Images of Modern America: Grove City*. Arcadia (Charleston, SC) 2015. PB \$22.99.

Carved out of Ohio's wilderness in 1852, the village of Grove City welcomed industrious laborers, farmers, and German immigrants. The arrival of the railroad and the interurban brought commuters willing to travel from Grove City into Columbus. The 1960s saw the construction of Interstates 71 and 270, which spurred the community's growth. Though its population has surpassed 37,000 residents, Grove City has retained its small-town appeal while offering residents and visitors a revitalized town center, a major arts festival, and the “world's largest” alumni softball tournament.

McCoy, David. *Charlemagne: Volumes 1 – 4*. Spare Change Press (Massillon, OH) 2017. PB \$9.99. This text contains the condensed chapbooks *Carolingian Dynasty Rise to Power and the Saxon War*, *The Daily Lives of Peasants*, *Becoming*

Holy Roman Emperor, and *The Carolingian Renaissance*.

McCoy, David. *Christopher Gist*. Spare Change Press (Massillon, OH) 2017. PB \$8.99.

In American colonial history, no individual did more to bring about the early expansion west of the Appalachian Mountains into the Ohio Country than did Christopher Gist. In his fifty-four years, Christopher Gist was first a merchant and business man in Baltimore, Maryland. He then became a Maryland Ranger, a surveyor, trapper, and trader. In 1750, Gist went to work for the Ohio Company of Virginia and made two trans-Appalachian explorations. In 1753 he accompanied George Washington to the French Fort, LeBoeuf (Waterford, PA). This chapbook tells Gist's story.

McCoy, David. *The Kent State University Shootings and What Came Before*. Spare Change Press (Massillon, OH) 2017. PB \$8.99. A short, informative book about the shootings at Kent State University on May 4, 1970, based on available government public documents.

McCoy, David. *100 Plus Ways to Protect Your Privacy*. Spare Change Press (Massillon, OH) 2017. PB \$8.99.

This small primer contains a list of simple things to start doing, some pitfalls to avoid, suggestions on how to protect your privacy, and several online steps to take.

Rama, Priya. *Migraine Visions: Transforming Pain into Beauty*. Pocamug Press (Mayslick, KY) 2017. HC \$44.95.

Artist Priya Rama suffers from

debilitating migraines. She paints her migraine visions, turning them into works of art, transforming her pain into beauty. Each painting is a snapshot from within the migraine. Here are 50 full-color reproductions of Priya's paintings, spanning the years 2016–2017.

Porter, Sherolyn. *Reflections from the Sunroom: A Journey of Spiritual Discovery*. Zander (Livonia, MI) 2017. PB \$16.95. The voice of the Creator is all around us. He speaks to us through His living and active Word, which is full of riches and truth, awaiting our discovery. He also speaks to us in the whisper of the wind, and the sparkle of the misty morning dew. Join Sherolyn in her search for intimate relationship with the Creator...her quest for hidden treasure.

Sung, Hou-mei. *Masterpieces of Japanese Art*. Cincinnati Art Museum (Cincinnati, OH) 2014. PB \$25.50. This is the first complete study and reappraisal of a remarkable collection at the Cincinnati Art Museum. It features a wealth of artifacts, including paintings and ceramics, metal objects and weaponry, screens, masks, cloisonné enamel, lacquer ware, ivory carvings, kimonos, and dolls, the majority dating from the Edo period (1615–1868) to the end of the Meiji Period in 1912. In addition to an important introduction by Hou-mei Sung, curator of Asian art, there are contributions by two leading guest authors from Japan, professor Keiko Nakamachi and professor Masahiko Aizawa, who study the collection's painted screens.

Vance, J. D. *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis*. HarperCollins (New York, NY) 2016. HC \$27.99.

From a former marine and Yale Law School graduate, a powerful account of growing up in a poor Rust Belt town that offers a broader, probing look at the struggles of America's white working class. *Hillbilly Elegy* is an analysis of a culture in crisis. J. D. Vance tells the true story of what a social, regional, and class decline feels like when you were born with it hung around your neck.

Wanczyk, David. *Beep: Inside the Unseen World of Baseball for the Blind*. Ohio University Press/Swallow Press (Athens, OH) 2018. HC \$26.95.

In *Beep*, David Wanczyk illuminates the sport of blind baseball to show us a remarkable version of America's favorite pastime. With balls tricked out to squeal three times per second and bases that buzz, baseball for the blind is both innovative and intense. And when the best beep baseball team in America, the Austin Blackhawks, takes on its international rival, Taiwan Homerun, no one's thinking about disability. What we find are athletes playing their hearts out for a championship.

FICTION

Aldama, Frederick Luis. *Long Stories Cut Short: Fictions from the Borderlands*. University of Arizona Press (Tucson, AZ) 2017. PB \$19.95.

Xbox videogamer cholo cyberpunks. Infants who read before they talk. Vatos locos, romancing abuelos, border crossers and border smugglers, drug kingpins, Latina

motorbike riders, philosophically musing tweens, and so much more. The stories in this dynamic, bilingual prose-art collection touch on romance, family, migration and expulsion, and everyday life in all its zany configurations.

Betts, Matt. *The Boogeyman's Intern*. Dog Star Books (Bowie, MD) 2017. PB \$15.95.

Not everyone lands their dream job. Take Abe: He's bottomed out as an Imaginary Friend and has to find a new job before his bosses assign him a truly crappy one. Just as he's about to resign himself to a life of making toys in a workshop, he's given a reprieve – of sorts. Now he has the opportunity to be the first policeman on the Hill and solve an impossible murder. For assistance he ropes in his career counselor, a Bigfoot, and his best friend, a Boogeyman. Dream job? Dream on.

Betts, Matt. *Shadow Beneath the Waves*. Severed Press (Hobart, Tasmania) 2018. PB \$12.95.

A group of treasure-hunters hits the high seas, chasing a tip from a mysterious source. If it's true, it could be their biggest score yet – literally – a massive robot the size of a skyscraper lost since the last war, worth a sizable reward and bragging rights. But in trying to the raise the Cudgel, the crew of the Adamant accidentally unleashes a beast trapped by the battle machine years ago. Can a handful of eccentric sailors resurrect the gigantic robot in time to stop the creature's assault?

Clemens, Judy. *Beyond the Grave: A Grim Reaper Mystery*. Poisoned Pen Press (Scottsdale, AZ) 2018. PB \$15.95.

Casey Maldonado is haunted by the

deaths of her husband and young son. She hopes traveling through rural Idaho will offer peace. Instead, she fights off three drunken locals before escaping to a quiet town where she wants to heal from her injuries and constant sorrow. Her traveling companion, invisible to all but Casey, is Death, wearing a series of disguises and offering commentary on her difficulties. Unfortunately, the village of Armstrong carries its own darkness.

Ellis, Mary. *Hiding in Plain Sight*. Severn House (London, UK) 2018. HC \$28.99.

On the run from a troubled past, Kate Weller changes her name and takes a case in Charleston, South Carolina, where she can hide in plain sight. Kate sets about trying to locate her adopted client's natural siblings, only to find more questions than answers when she eventually tracks down a long-lost sister. Meanwhile, her new landlord won't stop sticking his nose into her case. As far as Kate's concerned, Eric Manfredi should focus on whatever competitor is bent on ruining his family business. But when petty vandalism turns lethal, and Eric's father is arrested for murder, Kate is determined to prove his innocence.

Harper, Karen. *Shallow Grave: A South Shores Novel*. MIRA Books (Toronto, Ontario, Canada) 2018. HC \$26.99.

It's been four months since forensic psychologist Claire Britten last crossed paths with danger. Finally feeling she can catch her breath, together with her partner, criminal lawyer Nick Markwood, Claire has settled into a new role, volunteering with a support group for children stressed by domestic violence. But

a leisurely field trip to a wildlife sanctuary turns deadly, leaving Claire to question whether the death was an accident, suicide – or something far more sinister.

Henson, Michael. *Maggie Boylan*. Ohio University Press/Swallow Press (Athens, OH) 2018. PB \$18.95. Set in Appalachian Ohio amid an epidemic of prescription opiate abuse, Henson's linked collection tells of a woman's search for her own peculiar kind of redemption, and brings the novel-in-stories form to new heights. Maggie Boylan is an addict, thief, liar, and hustler. But she is also a woman of deep compassion and resilience. The stories follow Maggie as she spirals through her addictive process, through the court system and treatment, and into a shaky new beginning.

Hieber, Leanna Renee. *The Eterna Solution: The Eterna Files #3*. Tor (New York, NY) 2017. HC \$28.99. It's 1882 and two government divisions of paranormal investigators have completed a most harrowing task – stopping a demonic nobleman from taking over the British Parliament. Now the motley crew must race across the ocean to protect Manhattan from evil forces. American Clara Templeton's psychic powers have grown exponentially, but she worries that defeating the sinister forces arrayed against them will cost her her life. Londoner Harold Spire, once a Scotland Yard detective, has had just about enough of the occult, though he has seen his team's supernatural powers at work. Together, the American Eterna Commission and the British Omega Department hope to save New York City without destroying themselves.

Hogsett, Annie. *Murder to the Metal: A Somebody's Bound to Wind Up Dead Mystery*. Poisoned Pen Press (Scottsdale, AZ) 2018. PB \$15.95.

Ten months ago Allie Harper – smart, feisty, too broke to get her car fixed – rescued Thomas Bennington III – a hot, blind, college professor – in a crosswalk in her dicey Cleveland neighborhood. When Allie saved Tom and his groceries from traffic, she unwittingly retrieved his winning \$550 million MondoMegaJackpot ticket. The payout steers the two of them into a wild dash from romance to mayhem and multiple murders. Nothing's changed. Sure, Allie and Tom now reside in a rented nine-thousand-square-foot lakeside mansion with a sky-lit shower and breathtakingly high-thread-count sheets. True, Otis Johnson, Allie's deliverer from last summer's would-be-kidnapper, is now their live-in bodyguard and gourmet chef. Yes, Allie's dream of creating the T&A Detective Agency to solve "mysteries of the heart" by using Tom's money, Otis's P.I. credentials, and Allie's intrepid... intrepidity... now has its first case. That's when the real trouble kicks in.

McLain, Paula. *Love and Ruin*. Ballantine Books (New York, NY) 2018. HC \$28.00.

In 1937, twenty-eight-year-old Martha Gellhorn travels alone to Madrid to report on the atrocities of the Spanish Civil War and becomes drawn to the stories of ordinary people caught in the devastating conflict. It's the adventure she's been looking for and her chance to prove herself a worthy journalist in a field dominated by men. But she also finds herself unexpectedly – and uncontrollably – falling in love with

Ernest Hemingway, a man on his way to becoming a legend.

Strawser, Jessica. *Almost Missed You*. St. Martin's Press (New York, NY) 2017. HC \$25.99.

After strangers Finn and Violet have a flirtation on a Florida beach but fail to learn each other's names, Finn posts a message on an online "missed connections" page – but Violet is not the one who answers the message. Six years later, Finn and Violet are back in Florida with their three-year-old son, Bear. When Violet returns to their hotel room to find Finn and Bear missing, she must re-examine everything she thought she knew about her husband, their friends, and their life together.

Umrigar, Thrity. *Everybody's Son*. Harper Perennial (New York, NY) 2017. PB \$15.99.

Ten-year-old Anton has been locked in an apartment for seven days, without air conditioning or a fan during a heat wave. He shatters a window, climbs out, and is covered in blood when the police find him. Juanita, his mother, is discovered in a crack house. She never meant to leave, but her drug dealer kept her high – and captive. Anton is placed with child services while Juanita goes to jail. Desperate to have a child in the house again after the death of his teenage son, Judge David Coleman uses his power to keep his new foster son, Anton. Anton rises within the establishment. But when he discovers the truth about his life, this man of the law must come to terms with the moral complexities of crimes committed by the people he loves most.

Welsh-Huggins, Andrew. *The Third Brother: An Andy Hayes Mystery*.

Ohio University Press/Swallow Press (Athens, OH) 2018. HC \$26.95. It's a violent encounter that private investigator Andy Hayes could have done without. One minute he's finishing up some grocery shopping ahead of a custody visit with his sons. The next, he must come to the rescue of a Somali-American mother and her young children as anti-immigrant bullies torment them. Grateful for his intervention, the Somali community hires Andy to find a missing teenager who vanished without a trace and is now accused of plotting a terror attack in his adopted hometown of Columbus. Soon Andy is fending off FBI agents and dueling with a mysterious foe with links to the white supremacist movement. As he draws ever closer to the truth behind Mohamed's disappearance, Hayes stumbles onto a conspiracy that could put hundreds of lives in danger, including those of his own two boys.

Yocum, Robin. *A Perfect Shot*. Seventh Street Books (Amherst, NY) 2018. PB \$15.95.

Nicholas "Duke" Ducheski is the most important man in the eastern Ohio steel town of Mingo Junction. Nearly two decades after he made the winning shot in the state championship basketball game, he remains much adored and the focal point of community pride. Now approaching forty, Duke decides to parlay his local popularity into a successful restaurant. But no sooner does he get his restaurant up and running than disaster strikes. One day, "Little Tony" DeMarco, his brother-in-law and a known mob enforcer, comes into the restaurant and murders Duke's oldest friend. Now Duke faces the hardest decision of his life.

POETRY

Chew, Abby. *A Bear Approaches from the Sky: Poems*. Word Works (Washington, DC) 2018. PB \$17.00. Poems that pull the reader into a family saga that becomes archetypal in its preoccupation with loneliness. The poems also generate connection to our shared life on this planet and our many diverse and struggling families of origin.

Demaree, Darren C. *A Fire Without Light*. Nixes Mate Books (Allston, MA) 2017. PB \$9.95.

These prose poems chronicle a speaker who is trying to come to terms with the social and cultural implications of the 2016 election.

Kendig, Diane. *The Places We Find Ourselves*. Finishing Line Press (Georgetown, KY) 2009. PB \$12.00. Weary? Lost? Drowning in the diverted current of what you thought was going to be your life? "You can make other pathways," Kendig tells us. These strong and steady poems show us how.

Kendig, Diane. *Prison Terms*. Main St. Rag Publishing (Charlotte, NC) 2017. PB \$12.00. *Prison Terms* is a collection of poems that reflects poet Diane Kendig's eighteen years leading creative writing workshops in medium security prisons.

Moreno, Maria Paz. *From the Other Shore (Desde La Otra Orilla)*. Valparaiso USA (Clayton, GA) 2018. PB \$14.95.

In the words of writer Julia Otxoa, "From the luminous Arabic, Greek, and Mediterranean legacies, María Paz Moreno creates a new poetry in response to current times, builds

new bridges that help us understand losses and treasures, establishing other trajectories to grow in both interrogation and hope.”

Spire, Elizabeth. *A Memory of the Future: Poems*. W.W. Norton & Company (New York, NY) 2018. HC \$26.95.

In *A Memory of the Future*, critically acclaimed poet Elizabeth Spire reflects on selfhood and the search for a core identity. Inspired by the tradition of poetic interest in Zen, Spire explores the noisy space of the mind, interrogating the necessary divide between the social persona that navigates the world and the artist’s secret self. With vivid, careful attention to the minute details of everyday moments, *A Memory of the Future* observes, questions, and meditates on the ordinary, attempting to make sense of the boundaries of existence.

YOUNG ADULT & MIDDLE GRADE

Berne, Emma Carlson. *The Lady’s Slipper: A Melody Mystery*. American Girl Beforever (Middleton, WI) 2017. PB \$9.99.

Melody Ellison is impressed by her sophisticated new friend, Leah Roth, but she wishes her cousin Val would stop being so standoffish about Leah! Melody meets Leah’s grandfather, Dr. Roth, a botanist who escaped the Nazis and brought a rare and valuable Lady’s Slipper orchid with him to America. When Melody’s own grandfather becomes a suspect in a burglary, Melody turns to Val and Leah for help. Yet Leah seems to be hiding something, something to do with her grandfather, that could hurt all of them. Can Melody catch the orchid thief before it’s too late?

Bishop, Jenn. *14 Hollow Road*. Alfred A. Knopf (New York, NY) 2017. HC \$16.99.

The night of the sixth-grade dance is supposed to be perfect for Maddie: her crush, Avery, will ask her to dance. But Avery asks someone else to dance instead – and then the power goes out. A tornado has ripped through the other side of town, destroying both Maddie’s and Avery’s homes. Kind neighbors open up their home to Maddie’s and Avery’s families, which both excites and horrifies Maddie. Sharing the same house... with Avery? For the entire summer? While it buys her some time to prove that Avery made the wrong choice at the dance, it also means he’ll be there to witness her morning breath and her annoying little brother. At the dance, all she wanted was to be more grown-up. Now that she has no choice, is she really ready for it?

Dean, Mark. M. Illus. by Kelly Lincoln. *Adventures of Coal & Andy: Charlie the Catfish*. Monday Creek Publishing (Buchtel, OH) 2017. HC \$16.95.

Coal Coalson and Andy Anderson are two cousins setting out on the riverside adventure of their lives! The ornery ten- and eight-year-olds have swallowed their PawPaw’s fishing “tail” hook, line, and sinker, about Charlie, a legendary GIGANTIC catfish. This yellow-finned catfish is “as Big as a house and as long as a tree.” And as the story goes, has “eaten bicycles, a helmet, and many a shoe.” The mischievous boys spend a hot summer’s day creating a tale of their own, exploring the river from above and below the surface in pursuit of the catch of a lifetime.

Landers, Melissa. *Starfall: A Starflight Novel*. Hyperion (New York, NY) 2017. HC \$17.99.

When Princess Cassia Rose fled her home world of Eturia to escape an arranged marriage, she had no idea her sudden departure would spark a war. Now after two years hiding as a ship hand, she is finally returning to her beloved home – captured by bounty hunters and returned to account for her crimes. Her only solace is that the *Banshee* crew managed to evade capture, including Kane Arric, her best friend... with occasional benefits. Meanwhile, Kane and the rest of the crew of the *Banshee* plan a desperate rescue mission. But when they arrive on Eturia, Cassia has claimed her birthright as Eturia’s queen and has inherited a war-torn planet simmering with rebellion. When the outer realm is threatened by the Zhang mafia, Cassia, Kane, and the *Banshee* crew uncover a conspiracy that endangers the entire universe.

Landers, Melissa. *United: An Alienated Novel*. EverAfter Romance (New York, NY) 2016. HC \$17.99.

After thwarting a deadly coup and saving the alliance between their worlds, Cara and Aelyx have finally earned a break. Their tiny island colony is everything they dreamed it would be – days spent gathering shells on the beach and nights in each other’s arms. But the vacation is short-lived. The treaty between Earth and L’eihr has awakened an ancient force that threatens to destroy them all. As tensions build to a full-scale war, Aelyx and Cara must fight harder than ever – not just for their future, but for the survival of both their worlds.

Lord, Emery. *When We Collided*. Bloomsbury (New York, NY) 2016. HC \$17.99.

Seventeen year-old Jonah Daniels has lived in Verona Cove, California, his whole life, and only one thing has ever changed: his father used to be alive, and now he is not.

With a mother lost in a deep bout of depression, Jonah and his five siblings struggle to keep up their home and the restaurant their dad left behind. But at the start of summer, a second change rolls in: Vivi Alexander, the new girl in town. Charming and unfiltered, she refuses to be held down by the medicine she's told should make her feel better. After meeting Jonah, she slides into the Daniels' household seamlessly, winning over each sibling with her imagination and gameness. But it's not long before Vivi's zest for life begins to falter. Soon her adventurousness becomes all-out danger-seeking.

Nelson, Marilyn. *American Ace*. Dial Books (New York, NY) 2016. HC \$17.99.

Connor's grandmother leaves his dad a letter when she dies, and the letter's confession shakes their tight-knit Italian-American family: the man who raised Connor's dad is not his birth father. But the only clues to this birth father's identity are a class ring and a pair of pilot's wings. And so Connor takes it upon himself to investigate – a pursuit that becomes even more pressing when Connor's father is hospitalized after a stroke.

Woods, Brenda. *Zoe in Wonderland*. Puffin Books (New York, NY) 2016. PB \$8.99.

Zoe Reindeer considers herself “just Zoe” – never measuring up to her too-perfect older sister or

her smarty-pants little brother. Truthfully, though, she'd rather just blend in with the plants at the family business, Doc Reindeer's Exotic Plant Wonderland. She does have one friend, Q, and he's the best one ever – but he's moving away, leaving Zoe to fend for herself, and she doesn't know what she'll do without him. That is until a tall astronomer from Madagascar comes to the nursery looking for a baobab tree.

CHILDREN'S

Daywalt, Drew. Illus. by Adam Rex. *The Legend of Rock, Paper, Scissors*. Balzer + Bray (New York, NY) 2017. HC \$17.99.

From acclaimed, bestselling creators Drew Daywalt, author of *The Day the Crayons Quit* and *The Day the Crayons Came Home*, and Adam Rex, author-illustrator of *Frankenstein Makes a Sandwich*, comes a laugh-out-loud hilarious picture book about the epic tale of the classic game, Rock, Paper, Scissors.

Genshaft, Carole Miller. *Aminah's World: An Activity Book and Children's Guide About Artist Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson*.

Columbus Museum of Art (Columbus, OH) 2017. HC \$24.95.

An activity book and children's guide about Columbus artist Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson.

Houts, Michelle. *Count the Wings: The Life and Art of Charley Harper*. OU Press (Athens, OH) 2018. PB \$16.95.

When you look at a bird, do you see feathers and a beak? Or do you see circles and triangles? Artist Charley Harper spent his life reducing subjects to their simplest forms, their basic lines and shapes. This

resulted in what he called minimal realism and the style that would become easily recognized as Charley Harper's. Art fans and nature lovers around the world fell in love with Harper's paintings, which often featured bright colors and intriguing nature subjects. How did the farm boy who didn't know a single artist become one of America's most recognized midcentury modern painters? The answer is simple. He did it by counting the wings. *Count the Wings* is the first book for middle-grade readers about Harper's life and work. Author Houts worked closely with the Harper estate to include full-color illustrations, plentiful supplemental materials, and discussion questions that will intrigue and engage young readers.

Manso, Susana Madinabeitaia. Illus. by Emily Hanako Momohara. *In Autumn... En Otono*. Blue Manatee Press (Cincinnati, OH) 2017. Board Book \$7.99.

Vibrant photographs paired with text in both English and Spanish follow one little girl as she personifies all of her favorite things about the season: leaves falling, wind blowing, and more. Welcome the autumn season and build language skills with this bilingual board book.

Manso, Susana Madinabeitaia. Illus. by Emily Hanako Momohara. *In Spring... En Primavera*. Blue Manatee Press (Cincinnati, OH) 2017. Board Book \$7.99.

In this bilingual board book, a joyful little boy celebrates all of his favorite things about spring, from seeds growing to splashing in puddles. Vibrant photographs paired with text in both English and Spanish make for an engaging read-aloud that kids will enjoy year round.

Manso, Susana Madinabeitaia. Illus. by Emily Hanako Momohara. *In Summer... En Verano*. Blue Manatee Press (Cincinnati, OH) 2018. Board Book \$7.99.

Welcome longer days and warmer weather with this bilingual board book. There are so many fun things to do in the summertime: swimming, playing baseball, going to the beach. What do you like about summer? Vibrant photographs and text in both English and Spanish make *In Summer... En Verano* the perfect book for summertime... or any time.

Sims, Stacy. Illus. by Sharareh Khosravani. *Baby Loves to Wiggle Wiggle*. Blue Manatee Press (Cincinnati, OH) 2017. Board Book \$7.99.

Bouncy text and bright illustrations prompt little ones to wiggle toes, clap hands, and reach up to touch the sky, all the while noticing the movement of their bodies. Written by a mind-body educator and illustrated by an award-winning artist, *Baby Loves to Wiggle Wiggle* will have babies and toddlers moving in no time.

Coming Soon

Thurber House Summer Literary Picnics

July 25 – August 22, 2018
Thurber House, Columbus

The thirty-third summer season of outdoor picnics continues with Jessica Strawser (July 25), Dan Gearino (August 8), and Michael Henson (August 22). For more information and tickets, visit the Thurber House website at www.thurberhouse.org.

Ohioana Book Club

August 15, 2018
10:00 a.m. – noon
Ohioana Library, Columbus

The book for August is *Dreamland* by Sam Quinones. If you would like to attend, please e-mail us at ohioana@ohioana.org.

Cleveland Book Week

September 22–29, 2018
Cleveland

The third annual literary celebration presents events at venues throughout the city, including the 2018 Anisfield-Wolf Book Awards ceremony on September 27 at Playhouse Square. For more information, visit www.clevelandfoundation.org/news/book-week/.

Ohioana Book Awards

October 18, 2018
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Ohio Statehouse Atrium, Columbus

Join us as we celebrate the winners of the 2018 Ohioana Book Awards. The event begins at 6 p.m. with a reception followed by the awards presentations and book signing. Tickets go on sale in September. For more information, visit www.ohioana.org.

Do you have a literary event you'd like to list in the next edition of the *Ohioana Quarterly*? Contact us at ohioana@ohioana.org.

Thank You!

The Ohioana Library wouldn't be the unique organization it is without our many generous supporters. Listed below are those who have given from March 1, 2018 through May 31, 2018. Special thanks to Governor John Kasich and the Ohio General Assembly for the state's ongoing support.

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Why I Support Ohioana

I am so proud of Ohioana for these reasons!

1. I am inordinately proud of being around during the first Ohioana Book Festival in 2007 when we had one book, ten authors, and maybe 300 or so guests. Linda Hengst had just hired me as the *Ohioana Quarterly's* editor, so I had to jump in with both feet. I had no idea what I was doing, of course.
2. I'm crazy-proud of all the fine writers and illustrators, past and present, who are part of a living collection that is unique in the nation.
3. I'm also crazy-proud of my book reviewers and *Quarterly* contributors!
4. I'm proud of the times I've told people about a book's Ohio connection.
5. I'm proud of eighty-nine years' worth of dedicated staffers, interns, volunteers, and board members who keep this unique organization going. I'm proud of the state representatives who know and care very much about what we do.
6. I'm proud of our school, staff, and public outreach.
7. I'm proud of the gang I used to work with and the gang I work with now, and I'm proud of our Ohioana friends who have passed on.



Ohioana editor Leslie Birdwell Shortlidge

We are family, folks. And I hope we keep reaching out and into the future to make our family even bigger, an Ohioana family that continues to preserve the legacy of Ohio writers and their work.

Sincerely,

Leslie Birdwell Shortlidge

Leslie Birdwell Shortlidge
Editor

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Ohioana Library Association
274 E. First Avenue
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**Save the
Date!**

**Ohioana Annual
Meeting**

October 18, 2018

Join us for the 89th annual meeting of the Ohioana Library Association on Thursday, October 18, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. at the main branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library, 96 S. Grant Ave., Columbus, Ohio, 43215. All members of Ohioana are eligible to participate; the agenda will include the election of trustees. There is no admission charge and refreshments will be served.

RSVP by e-mail to ohioana@ohioana.org.
For more information, visit www.ohioana.org.