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## OHIOANA ANNOUNCES 2015 BOOK AWARD FINALISTS

The Ohioana Library is pleased to announce the finalists for the 2015 Ohioana Book Awards! The awards, established in 1942, honor Ohio authors in Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, and Juvenile Literature. This year a new category has been added to recognize authors of books for Middle Grade/Young Adult readers. The final category, About Ohio/Ohioan, may also include books by non-Ohio authors.

This year's finalists include winners of the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award, a former U.S. Children's Poet Laureate, an author whose debut novel was selected by Amazon.com as the Best Book of 2014, a Cleveland Arts Prize recipient, and eleven previous Ohioana Award winners. The winners will be announced in July, and the awards will be presented at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus on Friday, October 9, 2015. The finalists are:

### **Fiction**

- Chiaverini, Jennifer. *Mrs. Lincoln's Rival*. Dutton, 2014.  
 Doerr, Anthony. *All the Light We Cannot See*. Scribner, 2014.  
 McFawn, Monica. *Bright Shards of Someplace Else*. Univ. of Georgia Press, 2014.  
 Ng, Celeste. *Everything I Never Told You*. Penguin Press, 2014.  
 Umrigar, Thrity. *The Story Hour: A Novel*. Harper, 2014.

### **Nonfiction**

- Gilbert, Richard. *Shepherd: A Memoir*. Michigan State Univ. Press, 2014.  
 Hagedorn, Ann. *Invisible Soldiers: How America Outsourced Our Security*. Simon & Schuster, 2014.  
 Pramuk, Christopher. *Hope Sings, So Beautiful: Graced Encounters Across the Color Line*. Michael Glazier/Liturgical Press, 2013.  
 Rall, Ted. *After We Kill You, We Will Welcome You Back as Honored Guests*. Hill & Wang, 2014.

### *The Director's Chair*

Dear Friends,

We are still basking in the glow of a fantastic Ohioana Book Festival. Our first event at the Sheraton Columbus on April 25 drew more than 100 Ohio authors and record-breaking crowds that included visitors from not just Ohio, but six other states! We've already set the date for the 10th anniversary Ohioana Book Festival—Saturday, April 23, 2016, at the Sheraton Columbus. Mark your calendars!

Now we are busy planning for our next major event which, like the book festival, is a celebration of Ohio literature. For more than seventy years, the Ohioana Book Awards have been presented to recognize outstanding literary achievement by Ohio writers and about Ohio subjects. In this issue, we proudly announce our 2015 Ohioana Book Award finalists.

Some of these authors have enjoyed prolific writing careers while others are finalists for their very first book. What they all have in common is that their works have

Zola, Gary Phillip. *We Called Him Rabbi Abraham: Lincoln and American Jewry: A Documentary History*. Southern Illinois Univ. Press, 2014.

### About Ohio or an Ohioan

Diemer, Tom, Lee Leonard, and Richard G. Zimmerman. *James A. Rhodes: Ohio Colossus*. Kent State Univ. Press, 2014.

Gold, Betty, and Mark Hodermarsky. *Beyond Trochenbrod: The Betty Gold Story*. Kent State Univ. Press, 2014.

Huhn, Rick. *The Chalmers Race: Ty Cobb, Napoleon Lajoie, and the Controversial 1910 Batting Title That Became a National Obsession*. Univ. of Nebraska Press, 2014.

Logsdon, Gene. *Gene Everlasting: A Contrary Farmer's Thoughts on Living Forever*. Chelsea Green Publishing, 2014.

Oller, John. *American Queen: The Rise and Fall of Kate Chase Sprague*. Da Capo Press, 2014.

### Poetry

Ankney, Christopher. *Hearsay*. Washington Writers' Publishing House, 2014.

Bilgere, George. *Imperial*. Univ. of Pittsburgh Press, 2014.

Friebert, Stuart. *Floating Heart*. Pinyon Publishing, 2014.

Greenway, William. *The Accidental Garden*. Word Poetry, 2014.

Grubbs, Gerry. *The Hive Is a Book We Read For its Honey*. Dos Madres Press, 2013.

### Juvenile Literature

Kennedy, Anne Vittur. *The Farmer's Away! Baa! Neigh!* Candlewick Press, 2014.

Lewis, J. Patrick. *Harlem Hellfighters*. Creative Editions, 2014.

Long, Loren. *Otis and the Scarecrow*. Philomel, 2014.

Rosen, Michael J. *The Forever Flowers*. Creative Editions, 2014.

Woodson, Jacqueline. *This Is the Rope: A Story from the Great Migration*. Nancy Paulsen Books, 2013.

### Middle Grade/Young Adult Literature

Carson, Mary Kay. *Park Scientists: Gila Monsters, Geysers, and Grizzly Bears in America's Own Backyard*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Books for Young Readers, 2014.

Creech, Sharon. *The Boy on the Porch*. Joanna Cotler Books, 2013.

Houts, Michelle. *Winterfrost*. Candlewick Press, 2014.

Lewis, J. Patrick. *Voices from the March on Washington*. Wordsong, 2014.

Woodson, Jacqueline. *Brown Girl Dreaming*. Nancy Paulsen Books, 2014.

struck a chord with readers in a way that makes them deserving of special recognition. Keep watching our Facebook page in June as we start to shine the spotlight on one finalist each day.

Finally, it's crunch time for the state budget, as a conference committee of representatives and senators will soon hash out what will be the state's spending priorities over the next two years. Since 1949, the Ohioana Library has received an operating subsidy in the state budget, providing a vital and stable source of seed funding. If you believe what Ohioana does is important and merits the state's continued support, check out the article on page 6. Your voice can make a difference!

Thank you for being a special part of Ohioana—here's wishing you a safe and happy summer!

David E. Weaver  
Executive Director

# NEW BOOKS

The following books were added to Ohioana's collection in the first quarter of 2015. Look for them at your local library or bookstore!

## Nonfiction

Carpathios, Neil, ed. *Every River on Earth: Writing from Appalachian Ohio*. Ohio Univ. Press (Athens, OH) 2015. PB \$26.95.

This collection of short stories, poems, and essays set in Appalachian Ohio includes works by Donald Ray Pollock, David Baker, Michelle Burke, and many more. Sections titled "Family and Folks," "The Land," "The Grind," and "Home and Away" help readers navigate this special part of the state.

Chmiel, Louis. *Ohio: Home of the Wright Brothers: Birthplace of Aviation*. 2013. HC \$44.95.

This meticulously researched book not only tells the story of the Wright Brothers, but also the history of their family, beginning with the first ancestors to settle in the Ohio territory in the 1780s. Like many of their fellow settlers, the Wright ancestors exhibited grit, determination, and ingenuity. Chmiel's book shows how the history of a state, a city, and a family helped shape the inventors of the airplane.

Cordi, Kevin. *Playing with Stories: Story Crafting for Storytellers, Writers, Teachers and Other Imaginative Thinkers*. Parkhurst Brothers Publishers (Marion, MI) 2014. PB \$19.50.

In this book Cordi, a leading storytelling advocate, guides the reader through the storytelling process with practical tips and exercises

while emphasizing the importance of imagination, deep listening, and—most importantly—play in the creative process.

Cronin, Eileen. *Mermaid: A Memoir of Resilience*. W.W. Norton & Co. (New York, NY) 2014. HC \$26.95.

Eileen Cronin was almost four years old before she realized that no one else she knew was missing legs. In this memoir she describes growing up as part of a large family in Cincinnati, dealing with differences as an adolescent, and eventually finding her own sense of self.

Donohoe, Patricia, ed. *The Printer's Kiss: The Life and Letters of a Civil War Newspaperman and His Family*. Kent State Univ. Press (Kent, OH) 2014. HC \$39.95.

This collection of letters and newspaper columns written between 1844 and 1864 documents the life of abolitionist newspaperman Will Tomlinson and his family. During the Civil War Tomlinson served in positions ranging from quartermaster of the Fifth Ohio to scout and spy in Kentucky to nurse on a hospital boat. The letters he exchanged with his wife Eliza paint a picture of life on the battlefield and at home near the border between North and South.

Greenwald, Marilyn S. *Pauline Frederick Reporting: A Pioneering Broadcaster Covers the Cold War*. Potomac Books/Univ. of Nebraska Press (Dulles, VA) 2014. HC \$34.95.

Pauline Frederick was the first woman to become a network news correspondent, where she covered the Nuremberg trials, interviewed

a young Fidel Castro, and became the first woman to moderate a presidential debate. This biography documents Frederick's life and her career, which spanned nearly five decades.

Haven, Lisa Stein, ed. *Charlie Chaplin: A Comedian Sees the World*. Univ. of Missouri Press (Columbia, MO) 2014. HC. Between February 1931 and June 1932, legendary comedian Charlie Chaplin toured Europe and documented his experiences in a travel memoir. Although that memoir was published as a series of magazine articles in 1933 and 1934, it was never published as a book in the U.S.—until now. Haven's insights not only provide context for Chaplin's travels, but also document the journey's effect on his subsequent writings and films.

Herbert, Jeffrey G. *Index of Notices Appearing in 23 Early Cincinnati Newspapers 1793-1853*. Hamilton County Chapter, Ohio Genealogical Society (Cincinnati, OH) 2015. PB \$29.00.

This index covers more than 15,000 death, marriage, and miscellaneous notices printed in twenty-three newspapers before 1853. Although the newspapers were based in Cincinnati, the notices cover territory ranging from Indiana to Central Ohio to Kentucky.

Howe, Eber D. *Mormonism Unveiled*. Signature Books (Salt Lake City, UT) 2015. PB \$37.95. Eber D. Howe (1798-1885) was a newspaperman who helped found the *Cleveland Herald* and later founded and ran the *Painesville Telegraph*. His 1834 book *Mormonism Unveiled* [sic] "was the single most influential critical book

on Joseph Smith in the nineteenth century.” This edition reprints Howe’s original work; an introduction, notes, and cross references by Dan Vogel (author and editor of several books on Mormonism) add historical context to help modern readers weigh the historical text.

McCoy, Hal. *The Real McCoy: My Half-Century with the Cincinnati Reds*. Orange Frazer Press (Wilmington, OH) 2015. PB \$19.95.

Hal McCoy is the longest tenured beat writer in Major League Baseball. In this memoir he shares behind-the-scenes stories of his time covering the Cincinnati Reds, from the Big Red Machine of the 1970s through the present.

Moyer, Juda M. *Pioneer Recollections: Miami Valley of Ohio 1797-1850*. Closson Press (Apollo, PA) 2013. PB \$24.95.

Moyer, a former archivist and local historian, has compiled news articles from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries that tell the stories of early Miami Valley settlers.

Perry, Michael. *Tales from the Cincinnati Bearcats Locker Room: A Collection of the Greatest Bearcat Stories Ever Told*. Sports Publishing/Skyhorse (New York, NY) 2014. HC \$19.95.

Perry, a former *Cincinnati Enquirer* sports editor, covers Bearcats basketball through six decades and ten coaching eras. Interviews with players, coaches, and staff take readers into the locker room, on the recruiting trail, and onto the court during some of the most memorable games in Bearcat history.

Rea, Mark. *The Legends: Ohio State Buckeyes: The Men, the Deeds, the Consequences*. Orange Frazer Press (Wilmington, OH) 2014. PB \$22.00.

In this book, former sports journalist Rea shares a collection of biographies of some of OSU football’s legendary players and coaches, starting in 1913 with coach John W. Wilce and continuing through the early 2000s.

Harper, Brett. *Harper Ever After: The Early Work of Charlie and Edie Harper*. Pomegranate Publishing (Portland, OR) 2015. HC \$45.00. Charley Harper and Edie McKee met on their first day of school at the Art Academy of Cincinnati. This “biography in images” uses the Harpers’ early artwork, with notes by their son Brett, to tell their story from that first meeting in 1940 through Charley’s service in WWII and the early years of their married life.

### **Fiction**

Batiuk, Tom. *The Complete Funky Winkerbean: Volume 4 1981-1983*. Black Squirrel Books/Kent State Univ. Press (Kent, OH) 2015. HC \$45.00.

This fourth volume in *The Complete Funky Winkerbean* series continues to chronicle the lives of students and teachers at fictitious Westview High School.

Brazaitis, Mark. *Truth Poker*. Autumn House Press (Pittsburgh, PA) 2015. PB \$17.95.

The fifteen stories in this collection feature characters who make the wrong decision at the wrong time; the consequences of those decisions force readers to think about what matters most.

Brown, Duffy. *Demise in Denim: A Consignment Shop Mystery*. Berkley Prime Crime (New York, NY) 2015. PB \$7.99.

Lawyer Walker Boone took Reagan Summerside to the cleaners in her divorce settlement and has been annoying her ever since. However, when Boone is accused of murder, Reagan finds herself with a houseguest hiding in her attic. Together, Reagan and Boone must figure out who wants him out of the way.

Bryan, Lissa. *The Land of the Shadow*. TWCS Publishing House (Waxahachie, TX) 2014. PB \$17.50. After surviving a plague and a dangerous journey through the remains of the United States, Justin and Carly have finally found a new home in the small town of Colby. There, they must make decisions about justice and freedom that will define the nature of their new community. And, when the town is threatened by outsiders, they must decide how far they are willing to go to protect those they love.

Ellis, Mary. *The Last Heiress*. Harvest House Publishers (Eugene, OR) 2015. PB \$13.99.

In 1864, Amanda Dunn travels to North Carolina to try to restore cotton shipments to her family’s textile mills in England. When she meets shop owner Nate Cooper, her desire to return home changes. However, as her family objects to Nate’s social station and Nate prepares to join the Confederate army to protect his brother, Amanda will have a fight of her own before she and Nate can build a future together.

Fleming, Deborah. *Without Leave*. Black Mountain Press (Asheville, NC) 2014. PB.

In 1967, David goes AWOL from the Navy, and Diane leaves college after a brutal assault. The two meet in San Francisco and fall in love, only to discover that they cannot escape the past.

Gaus, P.L. *Whiskers of the Lion: An Amish-Country Mystery*. Plume/Penguin Random House (New York, NY) 2015. PB \$15.00.

In *The Names of Our Tears*, Ruth Zook was killed by a vicious Florida drug ring. Now Sheriff Bruce Robertson is on the trail of Fannie Helmuth, a key witness to Ruth's murder who has gone into hiding. When Fannie's traveling companion is found dead, Robertson knows he is running out of time to find Fannie and convince her to testify before more lives are lost.

Goldhagen, Shari. *In Some Other World, Maybe*. St. Martin's Press (New York, NY) 2015. HC \$25.99. One night in 1992, three groups of teenagers in three different cities head to the theater to see the same movie. Over the next twenty years, their stories become entwined through both friendship and tragedy.

Hershey, Brian. *Forgotten Sin*. McWood Publishing, 2014. PB \$19.99.

Desperate to be free from a curse and her past, Dr. Maya Bishop seeks help from animal expert Marcus Holland. When Marcus unwittingly unleashes a monster, he finds himself in the middle of a fight for Maya's life as well as her soul.

McClendon, T.T. *To Remove and Rebirth the Woman*. McWood Publishing, 2014. PB \$19.99.

Having given up hope, Syiah awakens in a dark place full of very personal demons. In order to find her way home, she must confront her past, learn to forgive, and find a way to be true to herself.

Thomas, Sam. *The Witch Hunter's Tale: A Midwife Mystery*. Minotaur Books (New York, NY) 2015. HC \$24.99.

It is the winter of 1644, and the British town of York is in the midst of a full-scale witch hunt. When someone close to midwife Bridget Hodgson is murdered, she struggles to find the killer without being named a witch herself. This is the third mystery in the series that began with *The Midwife's Tale*.

### Poetry

Andrews, Nin. *Why God Is a Woman*. BOA Editions Ltd. (Rochester, NY) 2015. PB \$16.00.

In this collection of prose poetry, Andrews has created a world where the "traditional" roles of men and women are reversed. In a place where women rule and men are domestic objects of beauty, Andrews forces readers to reexamine their perceptions.

Gay, Ross. *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude*. Univ. of Pittsburgh Press (Pittsburgh, PA) 2015. PB \$15.95.

Gay's third poetry collection is a "sustained meditation on that which goes away"—from seasons to loved ones.

Lueptow, Diana. *Little Nest*. Kent State Univ. Press (Kent, OH) 2015. PB \$7.00.

Part of the Wick Poetry Chapbook Series, the poems in this collection connect mythology and everyday contemporary life.

Touré, Askia M. *Mother Earth Responds: Green Poems &*

*Alternative Visions*. Whirlwind Press (Camden, NJ) 2007. PB.

Askia Touré grew up in Ohio and is a cofounder of the Black Arts Movement of the 1960s and 1970s. This collection of poems and essays celebrates the interconnectedness of Earth and all its inhabitants.

### Middle Grade & Children's

Herman, Michelle. *A Girl's Guide to Life*. Thought Catalog Books/Prospecta Press (Westport, CT) 2014. HC \$12.95.

Originally written by a mother for her eight-year-old daughter, this book provides guidance on topics ranging from creativity to compassion.

Korman, Irv. *Citytown Christmas Conundrum*. Loconeal Publishing (Amherst, OH) 2014. PB \$14.95.

One Christmas Eve, when no one else is thinking about them, Cupid, a leprechaun, the Easter Bunny, a ghost, and a Thanksgiving turkey join forces to give one family the best Christmas ever.

# MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD FOR OHIOANA

As noted in my letter from The Director's Chair, since 1949 the Ohioana Library has received an operating subsidy from the State of Ohio through the biennial budget enacted in every odd-numbered year. Ohioana's subsidy is one of the smallest allocations in the massive state budget, but the support provided is vital to funding our basic operation. The subsidy also enables us to generate support from around the state to sustain and grow our collection, publications, and events such as the Ohioana Book Festival.

We are grateful that in the new biennial budget Governor Kasich proposed increasing Ohioana's funding from its current \$140,000 to \$155,000 in FY2016 and \$160,000 in FY2017. After a detour in the House, during which our funding was reduced to its current level, we asked the Senate Finance Committee to restore the Governor's original recommendation. The committee will make its report to the full Senate next week, and once that body has voted, the budget will go to the bipartisan Joint Conference Committee.

I am asking you to help by contacting your representative and senator and simply telling them, "I support Governor Kasich's original recommendation for the Ohioana Library." A letter, a phone call, an email—any way that is most convenient for you will not only be a great help to Ohioana, but also will let your legislator know that reading, writing, libraries, and the literary arts are important to you.

To find your representative's contact information online visit [www.ohiohouse.gov](http://www.ohiohouse.gov) and go to "Member Search." For the Ohio Senate, visit [www.ohiosenate.gov](http://www.ohiosenate.gov) and go to "Find Your Senator."

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thanks so much for your support!

David Weaver

## COMING SOON

**Westerville Public Library Local Author Book Festival** June 6, 2015 at the Westerville Public Library  
Stop by the Westerville Public Library this Saturday from 1:00-4:00 p.m. for casual meet-and-greets, panels, and book signings with fifty Central Ohio writers. Visit the library's website for a schedule and list of participating authors.

**Thurber House Summer Literary Picnics 2014 Season** begins June 17, 2015 at Thurber House  
The 30th season of Thurber House's literary picnics begins this month. Enjoy good food on the Thurber House lawn as you listen to great authors with an Ohio connection; this year's lineup includes James Tobin, Mark Dawidziak, Maggie Smith, James Willis, and Brad Ricca. Visit the Thurber House [website](#) for more information and to order tickets.

**Pickerington Public Library YA Author Fest** July 25, 2015 at Pickerington North High School  
PPL's second annual YA Author Fest gives you the chance to talk with twenty-two of your favorite authors about your favorite books as well as attend panel discussions and writing workshops. The event runs from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and is free and open to the public. Visit PPL's [website](#) for a schedule, participating authors, and more.

**Ohioana Book Club** meets August 12, 2015 at the Ohioana Library  
The book for August is *All the Light We Cannot See* by 2015 Pulitzer Prize winner Anthony Doerr. The club meets in the Ohioana reading room at 10:00 a.m. If you would like to attend, please e-mail us at [ohioana@ohioana.org](mailto:ohioana@ohioana.org).