# Past Winners and Finalists

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017 Winners</th>
<th>2017 Finalists</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>National:</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kekla Magoon</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Regional:</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lori Rader-Day</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Genre Excellence (Middle Grade Fiction):</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>John David Anderson</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Emerging:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Francesca Zappia</td>
<td>Bryan Furuness</td>
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<td>Angela Palm</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Karen Joy Fowler</td>
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<td><strong>Regional:</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philip Gulley</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Genre Excellence (Children's Picture Books):</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>April Pulley Sayre</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Emerging:</strong></td>
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<td>Sarah Gerkensmeyer</td>
<td>Bill Kenley</td>
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<td>Edward Kelsey Moore</td>
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<td>Year</td>
<td>Winners</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>National:</td>
<td>Marianne Boruch</td>
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<td>Regional:</td>
<td>Adrian Matejka</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emerging:</td>
<td>Clifford Garstang</td>
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<td>Lifetime Achievement Honoree:</td>
<td>Mari Evans</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>National:</td>
<td>Michael Shelden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional:</td>
<td>Norbert Krapf</td>
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<td>Emerging:</td>
<td>Kelsey Timmerman</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>National:</td>
<td>Michael Martone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional:</td>
<td>James H. Madison</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emerging:</td>
<td>Mike Mullin</td>
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<td>2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>National:</td>
<td>John Green</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional:</td>
<td>Barbara Shoup</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emerging:</td>
<td>Christopher Coake</td>
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**Lifetime Achievement Honoree:** Dan Wakefield

### 2011 Winners vs. 2011 Finalists

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>Margaret McMullan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>Helen Frost</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emerging</td>
<td>Micah Ling</td>
<td>Aaron Michael Morales</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Bich Minh Nguyen</td>
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### 2010 Winners vs. 2010 Finalists

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<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>Scott Russell Sanders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>Ray Boomhower</td>
<td>Colleen Cable</td>
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<td>Andrew Levy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emerging</td>
<td>Greg Schwipps</td>
<td>Douglas Light</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Micah Ling</td>
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### 2009 Winners vs. 2009 Finalists

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<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>James Alexander Thom</td>
<td>Margaret McMullan</td>
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<td>Scott Russell Sanders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>Susan Neville</td>
<td>Jared Carter</td>
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<td>James H. Madison</td>
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<td>Emerging</td>
<td>Christine Montross</td>
<td>Kathleen Hughes</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Greg Schwipps</td>
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2017 Winners and Finalists

National Winner

Kekla Magoon

Kekla Magoon is the author of nine novels, including *The Rock and the River*, *How It Went Down*, *X: A Novel* (with Ilyasah Shabazz), and the Robyn Hoodlum Adventures series. She has received an NAACP Image Award, the John Steptoe New Talent Award, two Coretta Scott King Honors, The Walter Award Honor, the In the Margins Award, and been long listed for the National Book Award. She also writes non-fiction on historical topics. Kekla conducts school and library visits nationwide and serves on the Writers’ Council for the National Writing Project. Kekla holds a B.A. from Northwestern University and an M.F.A. in Writing from Vermont College of Fine Arts, where she now serves on faculty. Visit her online

Regional Winner

Lori Rader-Day

Lori Rader-Day, author of *The Day I Died*, *The Black Hour* and *Little Pretty Things*, is the recipient of the 2016 Mary Higgins Clark Award and the 2015 Anthony Award for Best First Novel. Originally from Thorntown, Indiana, Lori studied journalism at Ball State University. Lori now lives with her husband Greg in Chicago, where she is the current president of the Mystery Writers of America Midwest Chapter.
Genre Excellence Winner – Middle Grade Fiction

John David Anderson

John David Anderson is the critically-acclaimed author of several books for young people, including *Ms. Bixby’s Last Day* (a New York Times Editors’ Choice and an ALA Notable Book), *Posted*, *Sidekicked* and *Standard Hero Behavior* (a Young Hoosier Book). A dedicated root beer connoisseur and chocolate fiend, he lives with his wife, two kids and whiny cat in his hometown of Indianapolis, Indiana. You can learn more at www.johndavidanderson.org.

Emerging Winner

Francesca Zappia

Francesca Zappia is the author of *Made You Up*, *Eliza and Her Monsters*, and the online serial *The Children of Hypnos*. She attended the University of Indianapolis on their Presidential Scholarship and graduated in 2015 with a degree in Computer Science and Mathematics. She spends most of her free time writing, drawing and playing video games.

Emerging Finalists

Bryan Furuness

Bryan Furuness is the author of *The Lost Episodes of Revie Bryson*, a novel. With Michael Martone, he is the co-editor of *Winesburg, Indiana*, an anthology. His next anthology, currently titled *Return of the Ape-Man: Reboots, Retellings, and Reinventions of Classic Adventure Tales*, will be forthcoming from Break Away Books in the fall of 2018. His stories have appeared in *Ninth Letter*, *Sycamore Review*, *Southeast Review*, *Hobart* and elsewhere. His essays have appeared in *Brevity*, *Nashville Review* and *Barrelhouse*, among other venues. His work has been anthologized in *New Stories from the Midwest, An Anthology of Contemporary Indiana Writers, Best American Nonrequired Reading* and elsewhere. He is a recipient of the Tennessee Williams Scholarship in fiction from the Sewanee Writers’ Conference, a finalist for the Society of Midland Authors award, and a winner of the Midwest Short Fiction contest. He holds an MFA from the Warren Wilson Program for Writers, and has edited for several literary
magazines and small presses, including Booth, On Earth As it Is, Engine Books and Pressgang, the small press he founded at Butler in 2012. He lives in Indianapolis, where he teaches at Butler University and serves on the board of Engine Books.

Angela Palm

Angela Palm is the author of Riverine: A Memoir from Anywhere but Here (Graywolf Press). Riverine was an Indie Next selection, winner of the 2014 Graywolf Press Nonfiction Prize, a Kirkus Best Book of 2016 and a Powerful Memoir by Powerful Women selected by Oprah.com. Palm has been a Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference fellow in Narrative Nonfiction, and her work has been published in Ecotone, Creative Nonfiction, At Length Magazine, Passages North, Brevity, Paper Darts and elsewhere. She lives with her two children in Vermont, where she works as an editor.

2016 Winners and Finalists

National Winner

Karen Joy Fowler

Karen Joy Fowler is the author of six novels and three short story collections. Her most recent novel, “We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves,” won the PEN/Faulkner Award as well as the California Book Award for Fiction for 2013, and was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize the first year the prize was open to Americans.

She is also the author of “The Jane Austen Book Club,” which was on the New York Times bestsellers list for thirteen weeks and was made into a major motion picture. In addition, her novel “Sister Noon” was a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award.

Consistently acclaimed by critics, most of her titles have been New York Times Notable Books and named to many best-of-year lists. She is the co-founder of the James Tiptree, Jr. Award and the current president of the Clarion Foundation (also known as Clarion San Diego).

Born and raised in an academic family in Bloomington, Indiana, she holds an undergraduate degree from the University of California, Berkeley and a graduate degree from University of California, Davis. She lives in Santa Cruz, California.
Regional Winner

Philip Gulley

Philip Gulley is a Quaker pastor, writer and speaker from Danville, Indiana where he lives with his wife, Joan, and two dogs, Ruby and Jack. Many of his characters and recollections are taken from his boyhood in this small Midwestern town.

Gulley attended Marian University in Indianapolis where he studied theology and sociology. He then enrolled at Christian Theological Seminary where he received his Master of Divinity in 1992. While in seminary, he became the pastor of Irvington Friends Meeting in Indianapolis and began writing essays for the church’s newsletter. Pianist and broadcaster Paul Harvey, Jr. received those newsletters and shared them with a publisher. A few months later, the publisher invited Gulley to publish his essays, which resulted in “Front Porch Tales,” his first book in the best-selling “Porch Talk” series of inspirational and humorous essays. He has been writing ever since.

An eclectic writer, Gulley has now published 20 books, including the acclaimed “Harmony” series, chronicling life in the eccentric Quaker community of Harmony, Indiana. Gulley’s latest fictional series continues the exploits of Sam Gardner, first introduced in the Harmony series. The new “Hope” series includes “A Place Called Hope,” and “A Lesson in Hope,” his most recent fictional release.

Gulley has served as a Quaker pastor for 30 years, currently pastoring Fairfield Friends Meeting in Camby, Indiana. Additionally, he hosted the television program “Porch Talk with Phil Gulley” on the Indiana PBS affiliate WFYI and their flagship show Across Indiana, for which he received two Emmy® Awards. He also writes the popular monthly “Home Again” column for Indianapolis Monthly and is a regular contributor to The Saturday Evening Post. In 2010, Christian Theological Seminary awarded Gulley an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. In 2014, Gulley was presented with an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Franklin College, in recognition of his body of work.

Genre Excellence Winner – Children’s Picture Books

April Pulley Sayre

April Pulley Sayre is an award-winning author/photo-illustrator best known for her lyrical, read aloud science. She is a native of Greenville, South Carolina and currently resides in South Bend, Indiana. Her recent works include “Raindrops Roll,” an ALA Notable/NCTE Orbis Pictus Honor book; and “The Slowest Book Ever,” a middle grade science book. With illustrator Steve Jenkins she created the ALA Notable picture books “Woodpecker Wham,” “Eat Like a Bear,” and “Vulture View,” a Theodor Geisel Honor Book. Her book “Stars Beneath Your Bed: the Surprising Story of Dust”
received the Best Picture Book of the year from AAAS/Subaru/Science Books and Films and she is a multiple honoree of the John Burroughs Award for natural history writing. Many of her works, including “Rah, Rah, Radishes: A Vegetable Chant,” “Go, Go Grapes: a Fruit Chant,” and the upcoming “Best in Snow” and “Full of Fall,” were photographed in Indiana. She also created “The Indiana Chant,” featured by the Indiana State Library and celebrated on bicentennial posters at libraries around the state. Connect with her at www.aprilsayre.com, on Facebook at April Pulley Sayre, Children’s Author, or Twitter @AprilPSayre.

Emerging Winner

Sarah Gerkensmeyer

Sarah Gerkensmeyer’s story collection, “What You Are Now Enjoying,” was selected by Stewart O’Nan as winner of the Autumn House Press Fiction Prize, longlisted for the Frank O’Connor International Short Story Award, and chosen as winner of Late Night Library’s Debut-litzer Prize. A Pushcart Prize nominee for both fiction and poetry and a finalist for the Katherine Anne Porter Prize in Short Fiction and the Italo Calvino Prize for Fabulist Fiction, Gerkensmeyer’s stories and poetry have appeared in American Short Fiction, Guernica, The Massachusetts Review, Hayden’s Ferry Review, B O D Y, Hobart, and Cream City Review, among others. Her story “Ramona” was featured in a Huffington Post piece on flash fiction and also chosen for the 2014 Best of the Net Anthology. Gerkensmeyer was the 2012-13 Pen Parentis Fellow. She received her MFA in fiction from Cornell University and now lives with her family in Greencastle.

Emerging Finalists

Bill Kenley

Bill Kenley is a high school English teacher at Noblesville High School, and the author of “High School Runner (Freshman)”. Three times voted by students of his high school as the school’s most inspiring and influential teacher, he writes primarily for a young adult audience. A graduate of Miami University with a Master’s in English Education from Ohio State, Kenley is also an avid runner with multiple Boston Marathons and a fifty-mile trail run under his belt.
Edward Kelsey Moore

Edward Kelsey Moore is the author of the New York Times bestselling novel “The Supremes at Earl’s All-You-Can-Eat” (Alfred A. Knopf, 2013), which has been published in translation in eleven countries, was named a 2013 Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers selection, a 2014 First Novelist Award by the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, and was also a 2014 Illinois Reads book by the Illinois Reading Council. This book has been optioned for a film adaptation in association with Fox Searchlight Pictures.


In addition to his writing, Edward maintains a career as a professional cellist. He received degrees from Indiana University and the State University of New York at Stony Brook, studying with renowned cellists János Starker and Bernard Greenhouse. His playing has been featured on many recordings and he has toured nationally and internationally. Moore currently performs with a number of ensembles, including the Chicago Sinfonietta and the Joffrey Ballet Orchestra. He is a native of Indianapolis, Indiana.

2015 Winners and Finalists

National Winner

Marianne Boruch

Marianne Boruch’s eight poetry collections include “Cadaver, Speak” (2014) and “The Book of Hours” (2011), a Kingsley-Tufts Poetry Award winner, both from Copper Canyon Press which will publish her “Eventually One Dreams the Real Thing” in 2016. She is also the author of two essay collections, “In the Blue Pharmacy” (Trinity, 2005) and “Poetry’s Old Air” (Michigan, 1993), and a memoir, “The Glimpse Traveler” (Indiana, 2011) about hitchhiking in the early 70s. Her work has appeared in The New Yorker, Poetry, The New York Review of Books, American Poetry Review, London Review of Books, Ploughshares, The Nation and elsewhere. Two of her poems have been chosen for Best American Poetry and four have received Pushcart Prizes.
Twice a National Endowment for the Arts Fellow, Boruch also received a Guggenheim Fellowship and artist residencies at the Rockefeller Foundation’s Bellagio Center, Yaddo, the MacDowell Colony, the Anderson Center (Red Wing, MN), Denali National Park in Alaska and at Isle Royale, our most isolated national park. Purdue gave her its University Research and Scholarship Distinction Award (2014), the College of Liberal Arts’ Discovery Excellence Award (2013) and a 2008 Faculty Fellowship in the Study of a Secondary Area to observe dissections in the so-called “cadaver lab” of the IU Medical School on Purdue’s campus and take a course in life drawing, the source of many poems in her recent “Cadaver, Speak.”

Boruch has received numerous English Department teaching awards and the 2007 College of Liberal Arts’ Educational Excellence Award. A 2012 Fulbright/Visiting Professor in Scotland’s University of Edinburgh, she is a Professor of English at Purdue and was the founding Director of the MFA Program in Creative Writing in which she still teaches and, since 1988, has been semi-regularly on faculty at the low-residency Program for Writers at Warren Wilson College. She has taught at summer conferences such as Bread Loaf and Bear River. For nearly 30 years, she and her husband, David Dunlap, have lived in West Lafayette where they raised their son.

Regional Winner

Adrian Matejka

Adrian Matejka is a graduate of Pike High School in Indianapolis and Indiana University in Bloomington. He earned his MFA in creative writing at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. His first collection of poems, “The Devil’s Garden,” won the 2002 New York / New England Award from Alice James Books. His second collection, “Mixology,” was a winner of the 2008 National Poetry Series and was also a finalist for a NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literature – Poetry. His most recent book, “The Big Smoke,” was awarded the 2014 Anisfield-Wolf Book Award. “The Big Smoke” was also a finalist for the 2013 National Book Award, the 2014 Hurston/Wright Legacy Award and the 2014 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry. He is the recipient of fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the Lannan Foundation and currently serves as the Lilly Professor /Poet-in-Residence at Indiana University in Bloomington.

Emerging Winner

Clifford Garstang

Clifford Garstang is the author of “What the Zhang Boys Know,” which won the 2013 Library of Virginia Award for Fiction, and the prize-winning short story collection “In an Uncharted Country.” He is the editor of an anthology, “Everywhere Stories: Short Fiction from a Small Planet,” a finalist for the International Book Award, and Prime Number Magazine, an online quarterly. He is also the author of the popular literary blog Perpetual Folly, widely known for its annual ranking of literary magazines.
Garstang’s work has appeared in Bellevue Literary Review, Blackbird, Cream City Review, Los Angeles Review, Tampa Review, Virginia Quarterly Review, and elsewhere, and has received Distinguished Mention in the Best American Series. He won the 2006 Confluence Fiction Prize and the 2007 GSU Review Fiction Prize and has been awarded fellowships by the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and the Sewanee Writers’ Conference.

After receiving a BA in Philosophy from Northwestern University, Garstang served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in South Korea. He then earned an MA in English and a JD, magna cum laude, both from Indiana University, and practiced international law in Chicago, Los Angeles, and Singapore with one of the largest law firms in the United States. Subsequently, he earned a Master of Public Administration from Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government and worked for Harvard Law School’s Program on International Financial Systems as a legal reform consultant in Almaty, Kazakhstan. From 1996 to 2001, he was Senior Counsel for East Asia at the World Bank in Washington, D.C., where his work focused on China, Vietnam, Korea and Indonesia. In 2003 he received an MFA in fiction from Queens University of Charlotte.

Emerging Finalists

Laura Bates

Laura Bates has a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in Comparative Literature, with a focus on Shakespeare studies. She is Professor of English at Indiana State University, where she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on Shakespeare and world literature.

For more than twenty-five years she has also taught throughout the Indiana state prison system. She created the world’s first Shakespeare program in supermax—the long-term solitary confinement unit. Her prison work has been featured in local and national media, including two segments on MSNBC-TV’s Lock Up.

Her first book chronicled these prison experiences: “Shakespeare Saved My Life:” Ten Years in Solitary with the Bard (Sourcebooks, 2013). The book received positive reviews as well as national and international recognition, from Kirkus and Publishers Weekly to National Geographic and Huffington Post. It was selected as the global Big Library Read, during which it was read by more than 100,000 readers in more than 12 countries. A Korean translation was published last year. An audio book came out in May 2015. And a film adaptation is currently under contract.

Her second book is currently in progress: Tempest Tossed, A Five-Year Journey from Refugee to Immigrant Told Through Love Letters, 1945-1950. The book is based on more than 100 letters written between her mother in a D.P. (displaced person) camp and her father in a POW camp, culminating in each of their separate immigration experiences and eventual reunion in America in 1950. It is a personal account that represents the experiences of millions of refugees of that period, as well as the millions of war refugees around the world today.
Skila Brown

Skila Brown is the author of “Caminar,” a novel in verse set in 1981 Guatemala, about a boy who survives the massacre of his village and must decide what being a man during a time of war really means. Forthcoming books include the picture book “Slickety Quick: Poems About Sharks” and the verse novel “To Stay Alive: Mary Ann Graves and the Tragic Journey of the Donner Party,” all from Candlewick Press. She holds an MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts. She grew up in Kentucky and Tennessee, lived for a bit in Guatemala, and now resides with her family in Indiana.

2014 Winners and Finalists

National Winner

Michael Shelden

Professor Michael Shelden of Indiana State University is the author of five biographies, including the Pulitzer Prize Finalist “Orwell: The Authorized Biography,” which was also a New York Times Notable Book and has been translated into five languages. His study of Mark Twain’s final years, “Man in White,” was chosen as one of the best books of 2010 by Christian Science Monitor and Library Journal. For 15 years, he was a features writer for the London Daily Telegraph, and for 10 years he served as a fiction critic for the Baltimore Sun. His work has also appeared in The Shakespeare Quarterly, the Times of London, Victorian Studies, the Washington Post and the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography. His most recent book – “Young Titan: The Making of Winston Churchill” – was published in 2013 by Simon & Schuster in New York and London. “Shelden is full of sharp insights about Churchill,” said the Wall Street Journal, “as one would expect from a literary biographer of his rank.” Translation rights have been sold in four languages, and the film rights were bought by Carnival Films, the London-based producers of Downton Abbey.

A popular speaker, Michael has given lectures for the Churchill Centre, the National World War Two Museum, the Commonwealth Club of California, the Hirshhorn Museum of the Smithsonian Institution, and the London Library. For Recorded Books, he has created three sets of audio lectures, including “The Lost Generation: American Writers in Paris in the 1920s” (2011), which AudioFile magazine praised for its “bittersweet imagery . . . wry wit, passion and humor.” When his first book was published, the London Times wrote: “His ‘Friends of Promise, Cyril Connolly and the World of Horizon’ . . . is being heavily serialized and profiled in the serious national Press. He has dug up a great deal of unpublished correspondence and other documents that throw startling new light on the London literary and intellectual scene of 50 years ago. He also writes beautifully, with spice and vinegar.”
Regional Winner

Norbert Krapf

Jasper native, Indianapolis resident and former Indiana Poet Laureate (IPL) Norbert Krapf was inspired to start writing poetry in 1971 by the poems of Walt Whitman and the songs of Delta blues great Robert Johnson. As IPL, Norbert, who has worked with photographers Darryl Jones, David Pierini and Richard Fields, promoted collaborations and the reunion of poetry and song. He released a CD with jazz pianist-composer Monika Herzig, “Imagine,” and performs poetry and blues with Gordon Bonham, his guitar teacher.

Of Norbert’s 26 books, 11 are full-length poetry collections, including the recent “Catholic Boy Blues: A Poet’s Journal of Healing,” “American Dreams,” “Songs in Sepia and Black and White,” “Bloodroot: Indiana Poems” and “Invisible Presence.” He has also published a prose childhood memoir, “The Ripest Moments,” edited a collection of pioneer German journals and letters from Dubois County and translated early poems of Rainer Maria Rilke and legends from his ancestral Franconia.

Norbert is emeritus professor of English at Long Island University where he directed the C.W. Post Poetry Center. He holds degrees from St. Joseph’s College (Ind.) and the University of Notre Dame and was Fulbright Professor at the Universities of Freiburg and Erlangen-Nuremberg in Germany. He received the Lucille Medwick Memorial Award from the Poetry Society of America, had a poem included in a stained-glass panel at the Indianapolis Airport and held an Arts Council of Indianapolis Creative Renewal Fellowship to combine poetry and the blues. Garrison Keillor has read his poems on The Writer’s Almanac. See and hear more at www.krapfpoetry.com.

Emerging Winner

Kelsey Timmerman

Kelsey is the author of “WHERE AM I WEARING? A Global Tour to the Countries, Factories, and People That Make Our Clothes” and “WHERE AM I EATING? An Adventure Through the Global Food Economy.” His writing has appeared in publications such as the Christian Science Monitor and Condé Nast Portfolio and has aired on NPR. Kelsey is also the cofounder of the Facing Project, a community storytelling project that connects people through stories to strengthen communities. He has spent the night in Castle Dracula in Romania, played PlayStation in Kosovo, farmed on four continents, taught an island village to play baseball in Honduras, and in another life, worked as a SCUBA instructor in Key West, Fla. Whether in print or in person he seeks to connect people around the world. For more information, visit www.whereamiwearing.com.
2014 Finalists

Emerging Finalists

Jessica Brockmole

Jessica Brockmole spent several years living in Scotland, where she knew too well the challenges in maintaining relationships from a distance. She plotted her first novel, “Letters from Skye,” on a long drive from the Isle of Skye to Edinburgh. Since publication, “Letters from Skye” has sold to 23 countries and has reached international bestseller lists. It was named one of Publishers Weekly’s Best Books of the Year. Jessica now lives in the South Bend area with her husband and two children. For more information, visit http://jessicabrockmole.com.

Clifford Garstang

Clifford Garstang is the author of “What the Zhang Boys Know,” which won the 2013 Library of Virginia Award for Fiction, and the prize-winning short story collection “In an Uncharted Country.” He is the editor of “Everywhere Stories: Short Fiction from a Small Planet,” forthcoming in the fall of 2014, and Prime Number Magazine, an online quarterly. He is also the author of the popular literary blog Perpetual Folly, widely known for its annual ranking of literary magazines.

Clifford’s work has appeared in Bellevue Literary Review, Blackbird, Cream City Review, Los Angeles Review, Tampa Review, Virginia Quarterly Review, and elsewhere, and has received Distinguished Mention in the Best American Series. He won the 2006 Confluence Fiction Prize and the 2007 GSU Review Fiction Prize and has been awarded fellowships by the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and the Sewanee Writers’ Conference.

After receiving a BA in Philosophy from Northwestern University, Clifford served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in South Korea. He then earned an MA in English and a JD, magna cum laude, both from Indiana University, and practiced international law in Chicago, Los Angeles and Singapore with one of the largest law firms in the United States. Subsequently, he earned a Master of Public Administration from Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government and worked for Harvard Law School’s Program on International Financial Systems as a legal reform consultant in Almaty, Kazakhstan. From 1996 to 2001, he was Senior Counsel for East Asia at the World Bank in Washington, D.C., where his work focused on China, Vietnam, Korea and Indonesia. In 2003 he received an MFA in fiction from Queens University of Charlotte. For more information, visit cliffordgarstang.com.
2013 Winners and Finalists

National Winner

Michael Martone


Martone is the author of five other books of short fiction. His stories and essays have appeared in Harper’s, Esquire, Story, Antaeus, North American Review, Benzene, Epoch, Denver Quarterly, Iowa Review, Third Coast, Shenandoah, Bomb and other magazines. Michael was born and grew up in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He attended Butler University and graduated from Indiana University. He holds the MA from The Writing Seminars of The Johns Hopkins University.

Michael has won two Fellowships from the NEA and a grant from the Ingram Merrill Foundation. His stories have won awards in the Italian Americana fiction contest, the Florida Review Short Story Contest, the Story magazine Short, Short Story Contest, the Margaret Jones Fiction Prize of Black Ice Magazine and the first World’s Best Short, Short Story Contest. His stories and essays have appeared and been cited in the Pushcart Prize, The Best American Stories and The Best American Essays anthologies.

Michael is currently a professor at the University of Alabama where he has been teaching since 1996. He has been a faculty member of the MFA Program for Writers at Warren Wilson College since 1988. He has taught at Iowa State University, Harvard University and Syracuse University.

Regional Winner

James H. Madison

James H. Madison is the Thomas and Kathryn Miller Professor Emeritus of History, Indiana University, Bloomington. He has also taught, as a Fulbright Professor, at Hiroshima University, Japan, and at the University of Kent, Canterbury, England. He serves on the boards of Indiana Humanities and
the Indiana Historical Society and as a member of the Indiana Bicentennial Commission.


Jim has a new book coming out in 2014 titled “Hoosiers: A History of Indiana.”

Emerging Winner

Mike Mullin

Mike Mullin’s first job was scraping the gum off the undersides of desks at his high school. From there, things went steadily downhill. He almost got fired by the owner of a bookstore due to his poor taste in earrings. He worked at a place that showed slides of poopy diapers during lunch (it did cut down on the cafeteria budget). The hazing process at the next company included eating live termites raised by the resident entomologist, so that didn’t last long either. For a while Mike juggled bottles at a wine shop, sometimes to disastrous effect. Oh, and then there was the job where swarms of wasps occasionally tried to chase him off ladders. So he’s really glad this writing thing seems to be working out.

Mike holds a black belt in Songahm Taekwondo. He lives in Indianapolis with his wife and her three cats. “Ashen Winter” is his second novel. His debut, “Ashfall,” was named one of the top five young adult novels of 2011 by National Public Radio, a Best Teen Book of 2011 by Kirkus Reviews, and a New Voices selection by the American Booksellers Association. For more information, visit www.mikemullinauthor.com.

Emerging Finalists

Tricia Fields

Tricia Fields lives in a log cabin on a small farm with her husband and two daughters. She was born in Hawaii but has spent most of her life in small town Indiana, where her husband is an investigator with the Indiana State Police. A lifelong love of Mexico and the desert southwest led to her first book, “The Territory,” which won the Tony Hillerman Award for Best Mystery. She is currently working on the fourth book in the series, “Fire Break,” featuring border town Chief of Police Josie Gray. For more information, visit www.triciafields.com.
Kelsey Timmerman

Kelsey Timmerman is the author of “Where am I Wearing? A Global Tour to the Countries, Factories, and People That Make Our Clothes” and “Where am I Eating? An Adventure Through the Global Food Economy.” His writing has appeared in publications such as the Christian Science Monitor and Condé Nast Portfolio and has aired on NPR. Kelsey is also the co-founder of the Facing Project, which seeks to connect people through stories to strengthen community. He has spent the night in Castle Dracula in Romania, played PlayStation in Kosovo, farmed on four continents, taught an island village to play baseball in Honduras, and in another life, worked as a SCUBA instructor in Key West, Florida. Whether in print or in person he seeks to connect people around the world. For more information, visit www.whereamiwearing.com.

2012 Winners and Finalists

National Winner

John Green

John Green is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of “The Fault in Our Stars,” “Looking for Alaska,” “An Abundance of Katherines” and “Paper Towns.” His books have won many awards, including the Chicago Tribune Young Adult Fiction prize, the Michael L. Printz Award and the Edgar Award, and he has twice been a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. Green is also one-half of the vlogbrothers on YouTube, an online video collaboration with his brother Hank that has been watched more than 230 million times and spawned a community of viewers committed to celebrating intellectualism and decreasing what they called “worldsuck” through philanthropic efforts and volunteer projects.

Green lives in Indianapolis with his wife, Sarah, and son, Henry. For more information, visit www.johngreenbooks.com.

Regional Winner

Barbara Shoup

Barbara Shoup is the author of six novels: “Night Watch,” “Wish You Were Here,” “Stranded in Harmony,” “Faithful Women,” “Vermeer’s Daughter” and “Everything You Want” and the co-author of “Novel Ideas: Contemporary Authors Share the Creative Process” and “Story Matters.” Her short fiction, poetry, essays and interviews have appeared in numerous small magazines, as well as in The Writer and The New York Times Travel Section. Her young adult novels, “Wish You Were Here” and “Stranded in Harmony” were selected as American Library Association Best Books for Young Adults.
“Vermeer’s Daughter” was a School Library Journal Best Adult Book for Young Adults.

She is the recipient of numerous grants from the Indiana Arts Council, two creative renewal grants from the Arts Council of Indianapolis and the 2006 PEN Phyllis Naylor Working Writer Fellowship. She was the writer-in-residence at Broad Ripple High School Center for the Humanities and the Performing Arts for 20 years. Currently, she is the executive director of the Writers’ Center of Indiana, an associate faculty member at Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis and an associate editor with OV Books. Her seventh novel, “An American Tune,” will be published by Indiana University Press in September 2012. For more information, visit http://barbarashoup.blogspot.com/.

**Emerging Winner**

**Christopher Coake**

Christopher Coake is the author of “You Came Back” (Grand Central Publishing, 2012) as well as the collection of short stories “We’re In Trouble” (Harcourt 2005), which won the PEN/Robert Bingham Fellowship. In addition, Coake was listed among "Granta's Best of Young American Novelists" in 2007. His stories have been published in several literary journals, and anthologized in Best American Mystery Stories 2004 and The Best American Noir of the Century. A native Hoosier, he received his M.F.A. in fiction from Ohio State University. He and his wife Stephanie Lauer live in Reno, where Coake is a professor of English at the University of Nevada. For more information, visit www.christophercoake.net.

**2012 Finalists**

**Emerging Finalists**

**Sherri Wood Emmons**

Sherri Wood Emmons was born and raised in Irvington, on the east side of Indianapolis. After graduating from Earlham College, she spent four years in California before moving back to Indiana to raise her family. The married mother of three operated a freelance editorial business for more than 20 years. For eight years, she served as managing editor of DisciplesWorld, the award-winning denominational magazine of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Emmons’ first novel, “Prayers and Lies,” was published in 2011 by Kensington Books. Publishers Weekly hailed the book as “a strong debut,” noting, “Emmons has a rich voice that pairs well with the (book’s) earthy setting.” Her second book, “The Sometimes Daughter,” was released by Kensington in February 2012. Publishers Weekly wrote “Emmons has a keen grasp of the difficulties of mother-daughter dynamics, and the specific struggles of young parents who are still figuring themselves out. She also paints the shifting turmoil of mid-'60s to early-'80s America with complexity, creating a vivid, expansive background for an intimate story.”
Her third novel, “The Weight of Small Things,” will be released by Kensington in April 2013. For more information, visit www.sherriwoodemmons.com.

**Douglas Light**

Douglas Light is an award-winning novelist, screenwriter and short story writer. His debut novel, “East Fifth Bliss,” received the 2007 Benjamin Franklin Award for Fiction. The screen adaptation, “The Trouble with Bliss,” which he co-wrote, won the 2011 Best Narrative Feature Prize at the San Diego International Film Festival. The movie stars Michael C. Hall, Lucy Liu and Peter Fonda and had a theatrical release in the spring of 2012. His short story collection, “Girls in Trouble,” won the 2010 Grace Paley Prize for Short Fiction. It was published in the fall of 2011. His writing has appeared in the O. Henry Prize Stories and the Best American Nonrequired Reading anthologies and in numerous publications. For more information, visit www.douglaslight.com.

**2011 Winners and Finalists**

**National Winner**

**Margaret McMullan**

A recipient of a 2010 NEA Fellowship in literature and a 2010 Fulbright at the University of Pécs in Pécs, Hungary, Margaret McMullan is the author of six award-winning novels.

Her novels include *In My Mother’s House*, a Pen/Faulkner nominee; *Cashay*, a Chicago Public Library 2009 Teen Book Selection; and *When I Crossed No-Bob*, a 2008 Parents’ Choice Silver Honor, a 2007 School Library Journal Best Book, an American Library Association Best Book for Young Adults, a Booklist 2009 Best Book For Young Adults, and a 2011 Mississippi Center for the Book selection at the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C. Both *When I Crossed No-Bob* and *How I Found the Strong* won the Mississippi Arts and Letters Award for Best Fiction (in 2004 and 2008), the Indiana Best Young Adult Book (in 2005 and 2008), and they are both New York Public Library A-List Books for Teens. *How I Found the Strong* was also named an American Library Association 2005 Notable Social Studies Book, and a Booklist’s Top Ten First Novel for Youth.

Regional Winner

Helen Frost

Helen Frost was born in Brookings, South Dakota, the fifth of ten children. She lived in many places prior to moving to Fort Wayne 20 years ago, where her first Indiana home was a Woodbridge Apartment, owned by Eugene and Marilyn Glick.

She graduated from Syracuse University with a degree in Elementary Education and a concentration in English. She received her Master’s degree in English from Indiana University and has taught writing at all levels, from pre-school through university. In 2009-2010 she received a National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship in Poetry.

Frost has been active in the Indiana community of writers in many ways, including participation in Ropewalk, Young Audiences of Indiana, the Mary Anderson Center for the Arts, the Writers Center of Indiana, the Indiana chapter of the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators, Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne, and as a speaker at the Butler Children’s Literature Conference, and at Indiana Library Federation Conferences. She has received three Individual Artist Fellowships from the Indiana Arts Commission, and, when not an applicant, has served on the literature panel as a juror. Her book, Keesha’s House, was selected by Ivy Tech University in Fort Wayne as its 2011 choice for a Community Read. Diamond Willow and Crossing Stones were each selected as Best Books of Indiana.

Frost has written books for readers of all ages. Her first collection of poetry, Skin of a Fish, Bones of a Bird, won the Women Poets Series Competition in 1993 and was published by Ampersand Press. Her second poetry collection, as if a dry wind, was published by Pecan Grove Press in 2009. She has received the Robert H. Winner Memorial Award and the Mary Carolyn Davies Memorial Award from the Poetry Society of America.

Her six novels-in-poems, all published by Farrar, Straus, Giroux/ Frances Foster Books, have won numerous awards, including, for Keesha’s House, a Michael L. Printz honor from the American Library Association; for Diamond Willow, The Mitten Award from the Michigan Library Association and the Lee Bennett Hopkins Award for Children’s Poetry, and for all her books, many “Best of the Year” honors and inclusions on state reading lists.

For younger children, Frost’s books include Monarch and Milkweed, published in 2008 by Atheneum, and Step Gently Out, a collaboration with photographer Rick Lieder, to be published by Candlewick in 2012.
Frost is also active in the larger arts community. She worked with the Fort Wayne Dance Collective for more than 10 years as part of an inter-disciplinary artistic team in a violence-prevention program incorporating creative movement, percussion, visual arts and writing. She also worked with the Fort Wayne YWCA and the Fort Wayne Youtheatre to help high school students write about how they have been affected by violence. The students’ writing was the basis of a play and an anthology, both entitled Why Darkness Seems So Light. That work led to the book, When I Whisper, Nobody Listens: Helping Young People Write About Difficult Issues (Heinemann, 2001). Keesha’s House was also adapted to the stage and performed by the Fort Wayne Youtheatre.

Frost is married and has two sons and two grandchildren. She enjoys travel, hiking, beaded gourd-work, kayaking, and raising and releasing monarch butterflies. Her website is www.helenfrost.net.

Emerging Winner

Micah Ling

Micah Ling is a graduate of DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. After graduating, she moved to Bloomington where she earned her master’s degree in 20th century American literature and holds a Master of Fine Arts in poetry at Indiana University. Ling has taught in the English departments at Indiana University, Butler University, DePauw University and Franklin College. Ling’s first full-length collection, Three Islands, was published in 2009. Her second collection, Sweetgrass, was published in 2010. In addition to poetry, Ling writes freelance arts/entertainment articles for NUVO and for Indianapolis Monthly, and she manages a trio of websites that review books, music and film. She and her husband, Nate, live in Indianapolis. Visit her website: www.bookpunchreviews.com.

Emerging Finalists

Aaron Michael Morales

Bich Minh Nguyen

Nguyen was born in Saigon, Vietnam in 1974. When she was 8 months old, her family fled the fall of Saigon, eventually settling in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She received a master’s degree in creative writing from the University of Michigan and currently teaches creative nonfiction, fiction and Asian-American Literature at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. Nguyen’s novel “Short Girls” (Viking Penguin) was named an American Book Award winner in fiction and a Best Book of the Year by Library Journal. Her memoir-in-essays, “Stealing Buddha’s Dinner” (Viking Penguin) received the PEN/Jeered Award from the PEN American Center and was a Chicago Tribune Best Book of 2007, a Kiriyama Prize Notable Book and an Asian American Literature Award finalist. Nguyen’s work has also appeared in such publications as Gourmet magazine, Dream Me Home Safely, Writers on Growing up in America and Watermark: Vietnamese American Poetry and Prose. Nguyen and her husband, Shreve, have coedited three anthologies: “30/30: Thirty American Stories from the Last Thirty Years” (Penguin Academic); “Contemporary Creative Nonfiction: I & Eye” (Longman); and “The Contemporary American Short Story” (Longman). More information available at www.bichminhnguyen.com.

2010 Winners and Finalists

National Winner

Scott Russell Sanders

Scott Sanders was born in Tennessee and grew up in Ohio. He studied at Brown University before going on, as a Marshall Scholar, to complete a Ph.D. in English literature at Cambridge University. In 1971 he joined the faculty of Indiana University, where he taught until 2009, retiring as Distinguished Professor of English.

He has published 20 books, including novels, collections of stories and essays, and personal narratives. He has also published seven storybooks for children. His work has appeared in such magazines as Harper’s, Audubon, Orion, and The Georgia Review, and it has been reprinted in The Art of the Essay, American Nature Writing, The Norton Reader and other anthologies. His collection of essays, The Paradise of Bombs, won the Associated Writing Programs Award in Creative Nonfiction in 1987. Staying Put, a celebration of the commitment to place, won the Ohioana Book Award in 1994. Writing from the Center, an account of the quest for a meaningful and moral life, won the 1996 Great Lakes Book Award. His more recent books include Hunting for Hope (1998), an exploration of sources for healing and renewal; The Country of Language (1999), an account of experiences that have shaped his work as a writer; The Force of Spirit (2000), meditations on the sacred in everyday life; and A Private History of Awe (2006), a coming-of-age memoir, love story and spiritual testament, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. His latest book is A Conservationist Manifesto (2009), which lays out the ecological, ethical and practical grounds for shifting from a culture based on consumption to a culture based on stewardship.
Sanders has received fellowships for writing from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Indiana Arts Commission, the Lilly Endowment and the Guggenheim Foundation. His work has been selected for The Best American Essays, The Kenyon Review Award for Literary Excellence, the PEN Syndicated Fiction Award, the John Burroughs Essay Award, the Indiana Humanities Award and the Mark Twain Award. For his collected work in nonfiction, he was honored in 1995 with a Lannan Literary Award.

In his books he is concerned with our place in nature, the practice of community, the relationship between culture and geography, and the search for a spiritual path. He and his wife, Ruth, a biochemist, have reared two children in their home town of Bloomington, in the hardwood hill country of the White River Valley in southern Indiana. More information available at www.scottrussellsanders.com.

Regional Winner

Ray E. Boomhower

Ray E. Boomhower is senior editor of the Indiana Historical Society’s quarterly popular history magazine Traces of Indiana and Midwestern History. Boomhower has been with the Society since 1987, beginning work for the statewide, nonprofit organization as its public relations coordinator.

A native of Mishawaka, Indiana, Boomhower graduated from Indiana University in 1982 with degrees in journalism and political science. He received his master’s degree in U.S. history from Indiana University, Indianapolis, in 1995. Before joining the Society staff, he worked in public relations for the Indiana State Museum and as a reporter for two Indiana daily newspapers, the Rensselaer Republican and the Anderson Herald. In 1999 he received the Hoosier Historian award from the Indiana Historical Society. His books have also been finalists in the annual Best Books of Indiana competition sponsored by the Indiana Center for the Book, as well as finalists in the annual Benjamin Franklin Awards from the Independent Book Publishers Association.

Emerging Winner

Greg Schwipps

Greg Schwipps was raised on a working farm in Milan, Indiana. He graduated from Milan Jr./Sr. High School in 1991 and attended DePauw University, where he majored in English Writing. Following his graduation from DePauw, he attended Southern Illinois University at Carbondale for his MFA in creative writing. After receiving his MFA, Greg returned to DePauw, where he is currently an Associate Professor, teaching primarily creative writing classes.

His creative nonfiction articles and essays appeared in outdoor magazines like Outdoor Indiana, Indiana Game & Fish and In-Fisherman. His first novel, What This River Keeps, was published by Ghost Road Press.

A lifelong fascination with fishing and rural living has deeply influenced his life and work. He and his wife Alissa live with their two dogs on ten acres of woods near Morgan County’s town of Wilbur. He spends much of his free time cat fishing in the nearby West Fork of the White River.

2010 Finalists

Regional Finalists

Colleen Coble

Best-selling author Colleen Coble has written 30 novels and eight novellas. She has nearly 2 million books in print and writes romantic mysteries because she loves to see justice prevail. She is a lifelong Hoosier and graduated from Southwood High School in her hometown of Wabash before going on to Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion. She and her husband of nearly 40 years still live in Wabash.

Anathema, an Amish mystery set in Parke County, Indiana, won the 2009 Best Books of Indiana Award for fiction. Her books have won or finaled in awards ranging from the Best Books of Indiana, American Christian Fiction Writers Book of the Year, Romance Writers of America’s RITA, the Holt Medallion, the Daphne du Maurier, National Readers’ Choice, and the Booksellers Best. Her Lonestar series (Lonestar Sanctuary, Lonestar Secrets and Lonestar Homecoming) first launched as exclusive books for the Doubleday Book Group and were reader favorites before being released in the general market. Her Rock Harbor mystery series (Without a Trace, Beyond a Doubt, Into the Deep) was in such demand with readers that she continued the series with Abomination and Cry in the Night and plans more books in that perennially popular series. She had had two Women of Faith titles (Alaska Twilight and Midnight Sea).

Coble is CEO of American Christian Fiction Writers and is a member of Romance Writers of America. She has won the American Christian Fiction Writers Mentor of the Year award.
twice. When she's not spoiling her new granddaughter, she is teaching at a writer’s conference or researching a new book. Visit her website at www.colleencoble.com.

Andrew Levy

Andrew Levy was born and raised in suburban New Jersey. After graduating Brown University in 1984 with degrees in Mathematics and English, he worked on Wall Street for a brief period, before receiving an M.A. in Creative Writing from Johns Hopkins and a Ph.D. in Literature from the University of Pennsylvania. Levy joined the faculty of Butler University in 1992. He lives in Indianapolis with his wife and son, and is currently Cooper Chair in English at Butler, where he also directs the Writer’s Studio and the MFA Program in Creative Writing.

Levy has published The Culture And Commerce of the American Short Story (Cambridge UP, 1992), co-authored Creating Fiction: A Writer’s Companion (Harcourt Brace, 1995), and co-edited Postmodern American Fiction (Norton, 1997), an innovative anthology that was the focus of reviews and feature articles in The New York Times, Atlantic Monthly and elsewhere. Levy has also published a series of articles on American culture that attracted substantial readerships and media attention. “The Big Nap,” for instance, a meditation on Robert Kennedy, Jr., Martin Luther King, and the Midwest has been anthologized and utilized as a freshman orientation text at Midwestern colleges. “Play Will Make you Free,” an investigation into the corporate image of Nike, was the subject of columns in Sports Illustrated and the Chicago Sun-Times, radio talk show debate and a segment on National Public Radio’s This American Life.

With the publication of “The Anti-Jefferson,” an essay celebrating the forgotten emancipator Robert Carter III, in early 2001, Levy’s work began to receive broader readerships. “The Anti-Jefferson” was included in Best American Essays 2002 and was featured on NPR’s All Things Considered: David Levering Lewis, two-time Pulitzer Prize winner in biography, described the essay as “pure pleasure,” and “a model of the tour de force.” Levy’s The First Emancipator, published with Random House, was cited as one of the best books of 2005 by the Chicago Tribune, Amazon.com, and Booklist, won the Slatten biography prize from the Virginia Historical Society and was reviewed prominently nationwide.

In 2009, Levy published A Brain Wider Than The Sky, a memoir and cultural history of migraine headaches, from ancient Mesopotamia to the present day. Described as “a most remarkable book” by Oliver Sacks, Brain Wider was reviewed favorably in Time (“[Levy] collects headaches like rare butterflies, and he has a rare, possibly singular gift for fitting words to them”), Newsweek, Washington Post (“Andrew Levy’s beautiful memoir…is welcome relief”), among other venues, and was named as one of the best books of 2009 by the Washington Post and Wall Street Journal.

Levy has also written for the Chicago Tribune and the Philadelphia Inquirer and has won awards for his teaching. He is currently working on a book on Mark Twain and Huckleberry Finn for publication with Simon and Schuster in 2012.
Emerging Finalists

Douglas Light

Douglas Light was born in Indianapolis, Indiana. He graduated from Indiana University with a B.A. in economics and earned an M.A. in creative writing from City College of New York. His first novel, *East Fifth Bliss*, won the 2007 Benjamin Franklin Award for Best Fiction. The screen adaptation, which he co-wrote, was filmed in 2010. It stars Golden Globe winner Michael C. Hall, Lucy Liu, Peter Fonda and Brie Larson.

Light received a 2010 NoMAA writers grant, was selected as a finalist for the 2002 James Jones First Novel Fellowship and has been published in *Narrative, Guernica, Alaska Quarterly Review, Failbetter* and other publications. His fiction was selected for inclusion in *O. Henry Prize Stories 2003* and *Best American Nonrequired Reading 2003* anthologies. He lives in New York City. More information is available at www.douglaslight.com.

Micah Ling

Micah Ling is a graduate of DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. After graduating, she moved to Bloomington where she earned her master’s degree in 20th century American literature and holds a Master of Fine Arts in poetry at Indiana University. Ling has taught in the English departments at Indiana University, Butler University, DePauw University and Franklin College. Ling’s first full-length collection, *Three Islands*, was published in 2009. Her second collection, *Sweetgrass*, was published in 2010. In addition to poetry, Ling writes freelance arts/entertainment articles for NUVO and for Indianapolis Monthly, and she manages a trio of websites that review books, music and film. She and her husband, Nate, live in Indianapolis. www.bookpunchreviews.com

2009 Winners and Finalists

National Winner

James Alexander Thom

Born May 28, 1933 to Owen County doctors Jay W. and Julia S. Thom, James Alexander Thom gained his education in Indianapolis at Arsenal Technical High School and Butler University, which later awarded him an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. Thom enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps for the Korean War and served in the 1st Marine Division there, attaining sergeant rank.

His journalistic career included employment at *The Indianapolis Times* and *The Indianapolis Star*, where he was Business and Finance columnist. He taught at the Indiana University School of Journalism on the Bloomington campus in the late
1970s. His freelance writing career has included articles for National Geographic, Reader’s Digest and regional magazines. He also reviewed books for the Washington Post, and wrote a magazine of essays and humor for The Saturday Evening Post Company for 25 years.

His first published novel, Spectator Sport, appeared in 1978, followed the next year by Long Knife, the first of the meticulously-researched historical novels for which he is best known. This has been followed by Follow the River, From Sea to Shining Sea, Panther in the Sky, The Children of First Man, The Red Heart, Sign Talker and Saint Patrick’s Battalion. Thom’s novels have sold more than 2.5 million copies and most are still in print. Several are used as supplemental reading in history classes. Two were produced as television movies: Follow the River by Hallmark and Panther in the Sky by Ted Turner (under the title Tecumseh: The Last Warrior). Panther in the Sky won the Western Writers of America SPUR award in 1989 as Best Novel of the West.

Thom wrote text for two books of Indiana photography by Darryl Jones and has written essays and forewords for several books from Indiana University Press. His nonfiction book The Art and Craft of Writing Historical Fiction is a 2010 release from Writer’s Digest Books.

Thom co-authored the novel Warrior Woman with his wife Dark Rain and illustrated her Shawnee history book Kohkumthena’s Grandchildren. The husband and wife maintain a busy lecture schedule at schools and libraries. Both are longtime council members of the East of River Shawnee Band. The couple lives in an 1840s-era log house that Thom disassembled in another part of Owen County and rebuilt on his acreage on a scenic ridge. He has been an environmental and anti-war activist and is a sculptor and illustrator. He is now at work on a Civil War novel and children’s books. More information available at www.jamesalexanderthom.com.

Regional Winner

Susan Neville

Susan Neville is the author of five works of creative nonfiction: Indiana Winter; Fabrication: Essays on Making Things and Making Meaning; Twilight in Arcadia; Iconography: A Writer’s Meditation; and Sailing the Inland Sea. Her prize-winning collections of short fiction include In the House of Blue Lights, winner of the Richard Sullivan prize and listed as a ‘Notable Book’ by the Chicago Tribune, and Invention of Flight, winner of the Flannery O’Connor Award for Short Fiction. The recipient of two National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships in fiction, her stories have appeared in the Pushcart Prize Anthology and in anthologies including Extreme Fiction (Longman) and The Story Behind the Story (Norton.) She lives in Indianapolis with her husband and two children and teaches writing at Butler University and in the Warren Wilson MFA Program for Writers. More information available at www.susan-neville.com.
Emerging Winner

Christine Montross

Dr. Christine Montross is a senior resident in psychiatry at Brown University, where she also attended medical school and received the Isaac Ray Award in Psychiatry. She was born and raised in Indianapolis and spent summer weekends in the blueberry bushes and soybean fields of her grandparents’ Mooresville, Indiana home. Dr. Montross received her undergraduate degrees and a Master of Fine Arts in poetry from the University of Michigan, where she also taught writing classes as a lecturer following graduation. She has had several poems published in literary journals, and her manuscript “Embouchure” was a finalist for the National Poetry Series. She has also recently written for The New York Times, The Washington Post Book World, O, the Oprah Magazine and Good Housekeeping. Body of Work: Meditations on Mortality from the Human Anatomy Lab is Dr. Montross’s first book. It was named a New York Times Editors’ Choice and one of The Washington Post’s best nonfiction books of 2007.

While writing Body of Work, Montross traveled to anatomical theaters, sought out holy relics and dissected three arms, a leg and an entire human body. She lives in Providence, Rhode Island with her partner, the playwright Deborah Salem Smith, and their two young children. They live six blocks from fellow finalist and Skiles Test Little League shortstop extraordinaire, Kathleen Hughes.

2009 Finalists

National Finalists

Margaret McMullan

A recipient of a 2010 NEA Fellowship in literature and a 2010 Fulbright at the University of Pécs in Pécs, Hungary, Margaret McMullan is the author of six award-winning novels.

Her novels include In My Mother’s House, a Pen/Faulkner nominee; Cashay, a Chicago Public Library 2009 Teen Book Selection; and When I Crossed No-Bob, a 2008 Parents’ Choice Silver Honor, a 2007 School Library Journal Best Book, an American Library Association Best Book for Young Adults, a Booklist 2009 Best Book For Young Adults, and a 2011 Mississippi Center for the Book selection at the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C. Both When I Crossed No-Bob and How I Found the Strong won the Mississippi Arts and Letters Award for Best Fiction (in 2004 and 2008), the Indiana Best Young Adult Book (in 2005 and 2008), and they are both New York Public Library A-List Books for Teens. How I Found the Strong was also named an American Library Association 2005 Notable Social Studies Book, and a Booklist’s Top Ten First Novel for Youth.

A 2007 Eudora Welty Visiting Writer at Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi, McMullan has taught on the summer faculty at the Stony Brook Southampton Writers Conference in Southampton, New York and she has taught at the Eastern Kentucky University, Low-Residency MFA Program. She currently teaches in the Department of Creative Writing at the University of Evansville in Evansville, Indiana, where she is Professor and Melvin M. Peterson Endowed Chair in Literature and Writing. Visit her website at: www.margaretmcmullan.com.

Scott Russell Sanders

Scott Sanders was born in Tennessee and grew up in Ohio. He studied at Brown University before going on, as a Marshall Scholar, to complete a Ph.D. in English literature at Cambridge University. In 1971 he joined the faculty of Indiana University, where he taught until 2009, retiring as Distinguished Professor of English.

He has published twenty books, including novels, collections of stories and essays, and personal narratives. He has also published seven storybooks for children. His work has appeared in such magazines as Harper’s, Audubon, Orion, and The Georgia Review, and it has been reprinted in The Art of the Essay, American Nature Writing, The Norton Reader, and other anthologies. His collection of essays, The Paradise of Bombs, won the Associated Writing Programs Award in Creative Nonfiction in 1987. Staying Put, a celebration of the commitment to place, won the Ohioana Book Award in 1994. Writing from the Center, an account of the quest for a meaningful and moral life, won the 1996 Great Lakes Book Award. His more recent books include Hunting for Hope (1998), an exploration of sources for healing and renewal; The Country of Language (1999), an account of experiences that have shaped his work as a writer; The Force of Spirit (2000), meditations on the sacred in everyday life; and A Private History of Awe (2006), a coming-of-age memoir, love story, and spiritual testament, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. His latest book is A Conservationist Manifesto (2009), which lays out the ecological, ethical, and practical grounds for shifting from a culture based on consumption to a culture based on stewardship.

Sanders has received fellowships for writing from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Indiana Arts Commission, the Lilly Endowment, and the Guggenheim Foundation. His work has been selected for The Best American Essays, The Kenyon Review Award for Literary Excellence, the PEN Syndicated Fiction Award, the John Burroughs Essay Award, the Indiana Humanities Award, and the Mark Twain Award. For his collected work in nonfiction, he was honored in 1995 with a Lannan Literary Award.

In his books he is concerned with our place in nature, the practice of community, the relationship between culture and geography, and the search for a spiritual path. He and his
wife, Ruth, a biochemist, have reared two children in their home town of Bloomington, in the hardwood hill country of the White River Valley in southern Indiana. More information available at http://www.scottrussellsanders.com

Regional Finalists

Jared Carter

Jared Carter has published four collections of poems. His first, Work, for the Night Is Coming, received the Walt Whitman Award for 1980. His second, After the Rain, won the Poets’ Prize for 1994. He has received a Guggenheim fellowship, two creative writing fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Indiana Governor’s Arts Award. He has served as a literature panelist with the National Endowment for the Arts. More information available at www.jaredcarter.com.

James H. Madison

James H. Madison is the Thomas and Kathryn Miller Professor of History and former chair of the Department of History at Indiana University, Bloomington. More than 35 years ago he began the quest to understand Indiana and its people. He is still on that journey in his teaching, research and writing.

Madison’s books include a general overview history of the state (The Indiana Way); a biography of one of the state’s leading businessmen and philanthropists (Eli Lilly); a case study of Indiana’s struggles with race (A Lynching in the Heartland); and the story of a young Indiana woman in World War II (Slinging Doughnuts for the Boys). He has written dozens of essays on Indiana subjects ranging from Wendell Willkie to Civil War memory and commemoration. He has spoken to audiences across the state, from fourth graders to seniors; conducted seminars and workshops for teachers; and worked with museums, historical societies and public libraries in the pursuit of learning about Indiana.

Madison’s teaching on the Bloomington campus have ranged from the freshman introductory U.S. history class to courses on World War II and Indiana history. Madison’s work to help students learn about the challenges of the 21st century includes his role as Director of IU’s Liberal Arts and Management Program. His teaching honors include the Sylvia E. Bowmen Distinguished Teaching Award, the James P. Holland Award for Exemplary Teaching and the IU Student Alumni Association “Student Choice” Award. He has also taught, as a Fulbright Professor, at Hiroshima University in Japan and at the University of Kent in Canterbury, England. From 1976 to 1993 he served as editor of the Indiana Magazine of History. He is the recipient of the Indiana Historical Society’s Hoosier Historian Award. More information available at http://www.indiana.edu/~histweb/faculty/madison.shtml.
Emerging Finalists

Kathleen Hughes

Kathleen Hughes was born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana. She graduated from Yale University with a B.A. in English and earned an M.F.A. from the Iowa Writer’s Workshop. She currently lives with her husband and two young children in Providence, Rhode Island and teaches high school English at an independent school. Dear Mrs. Lindbergh, published by WW Norton, is her first novel. Hughes has also published stories and essays in Altared (Vintage Books), Pieces (MTV/Pocket Books) and The Land Grant College Review. As a staff writer for the Providence Phoenix newspaper, Hughes published work in the Boston Phoenix and on AlterNet and won awards from the Rhode Island and New England Press Associations. She has won fellowships from the University of Iowa Writer’s Workshop, the Vermont Studio Center, Sewanee Writer’s Conference and Portsmouth Abbey School. More information available at www.kathleenhughes.com.

Greg Schwipps

Greg Schwipps was raised on a working farm in Milan, Indiana. He graduated from Milan Jr./Sr. High School in 1991 and attended DePauw University, where he majored in English Writing. Following his graduation from DePauw, he attended Southern Illinois University at Carbondale for his MFA in creative writing. After receiving his MFA, Greg returned to DePauw, where he is currently an Associate Professor, teaching primarily creative writing classes.

His creative nonfiction articles and essays appeared in outdoor magazines like Outdoor Indiana, Indiana Game & Fish and In-Fisherman. His first novel, What This River Keeps, was published by Ghost Road Press.

A lifelong fascination with fishing and rural living has deeply influenced his life and work. He and his wife Alissa live with their two dogs on ten acres of woods near Morgan County’s town of Wilbur. He spends much of his free time cat fishing in the nearby West Fork of the White River.

Congratulations to all of the past winners and finalists of the Eugene & Marilyn Glick Indiana Authors Award. These authors represent some of the best that Indiana literature has to offer and are truly deserving of recognition.