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*Oklahoma*

BOOK

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL

AWARDS

CELEBRATING BOOKS + AUTHORS

*Oklahoma*  
**BOOK**

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL

**AWARDS**

CELEBRATING

*Notable Books + Authors*  
2026

Presented by





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*Bob Burke*

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This evening would not be possible without the continued support of the Friends of the Oklahoma Center for the Book.

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# CEREMONY

## *Order of Events*

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**Welcome**

Michelle Hall

Director, Oklahoma Center for the Book

**Greetings from the State Library**

Natalie Currie

Director, State Librarian and Archivist, Oklahoma Department of Libraries

**Greetings from the Friends**

Rudy Ellis

President, Friends of the Oklahoma Center for the Book

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### AWARD PRESENTATIONS

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**Poetry**

**Non-Fiction**

**Design / Illustration / Photography**

**My Favorite Book**

**Children's**

**Young Adult**

**Fiction**

**Lynn McIntosh Award for Excellence**

**Glenda Carlile Award for Distinguished Service**

**Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award**

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### CLOSING REMARKS

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## ***Tonight's Winners***

*Please meet after the awards program for a group photo.*

The book sale and signing continues after dinner. Please enjoy visiting with the book award medalists and finalists.

# 40 Year Anniversary

OKLAHOMA  
**CENTER  
FOR THE  
BOOK**

**The Oklahoma Center for the Book (OCB)** is a proud state affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. In the years since its founding on February 28, 1986, the Center has worked to highlight the vital role of books and reading in our communities through the following goals:

**Encourage reading for pleasure for all ages.**

**Promote past, present, and future Oklahoma authors.**

**Celebrate the rich literary heritage of our state.**

Housed in the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, the OCB partners with the Friends of the Oklahoma Center for the Book on a variety of literary events. For over 30 years, these organizations have hosted the annual Oklahoma Book Awards, as well as other beloved programs such as Read Across Oklahoma and My Favorite Book. The Center also represents the state at the Library of Congress National Book Festival through the Great Reads from Great Places program, sharing Oklahoma's literary legacy with audiences nationwide.



**For four decades, the Oklahoma Center for the Book has celebrated authors, readers, and the power of the written word—and its story continues.**

# CEREMONY

## *Award Finalists*

### Poetry Finalists

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#### **BLOOD WOLF MOON**

BY **Elise Paschen** • *Red Hen Press*

In her riveting sixth collection, Elise Paschen explores the storylines of her Osage heritage. The book opens with “Heritage,” a bracelet of crown poems that leads into Paschen’s exploration of family and cultural history through themes such as ancestors, childhood, loss, transformation, and flight. The collection also grapples with a dark period of American history, “The Reign of Terror,” when outsiders murdered members of the Osage Nation for their oil headrights. Editor Esther Belin calls the concluding poems, with their use of Osage language, “significant leaps into literary sovereignty.”

#### **OH, I THINK I HAVE A POEM ABOUT THAT!**

BY **Jim Spurr** • *Spurline Productions*

A posthumous celebration of Shawnee City’s Poet Laureate, this book gathers together poems that capture scenes from the life of a former paratrooper and beloved icon known across Oklahoma for his poetry readings. As remembered in *World Literature Today* by Dorothy Alexander, Spurr “found images in plain life and plain language and wrote them down with all the pathos and humor anyone could want.”

#### **QUANTUM ENTANGLEMENT**

BY **Gary Reddin** • *Mouthfeel Press*

*Quantum Entanglement* is a unified theory of human compassion, highlighting the ways in which our lives become entangled across vast distances of time and space. Full of poems about the softness of being human, this collection exists at the intersection of love, science, distance, and hope. Reddin’s words owe as much to Stephen Hawking as they do Pablo Neruda.

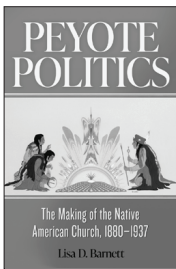
# THIS IS THE TRUTH

BY Jennifer Kidney • *Clare Songbirds Publishing House*

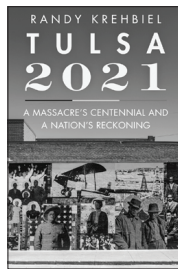
In *This is the Truth*, Jennifer Kidney unspools memory like a dream sequence, layering stories, themes, and images to view an innocent past through the lens of experience. When turning her eye to the present, she highlights the humor of aging and the poetry of the day-to-day. Most importantly, Kidney finds poignancy and beauty in all her musings, as she does in “Mulberries and Roses,” which depicts her child-self picknicking “in a cemetery, the only park / in our part of town.”

— Cullen Whisenhunt, award-winning author of *Among the Trees*

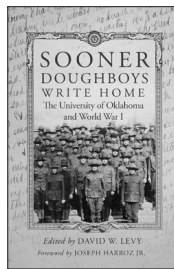
## *Congratulations to our finalists!*



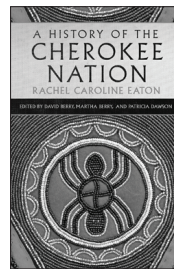
**Peyote Politics**  
*The Making of the  
Native American  
Church, 1880-1937*  
By Lisa D. Barnett  
**\$45.00 HARDCOVER**  
9780806195384



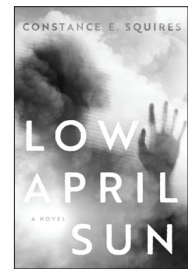
**Tulsa, 2021**  
*A Massacre's Centennial  
and a Nation's Reckoning*  
By Randy Krehbiel  
**\$29.95 HARDCOVER**  
9780806195322



**Sooner Doughboys  
Write Home**  
*The University of Oklahoma  
and World War I*  
Edited by David W. Levy  
Foreword by Joseph Harroz  
**\$29.95 HARDCOVER**  
9780806195278



**A History of the  
Cherokee Nation**  
By Rachel Caroline Eaton  
Edited by David Berry,  
Martha Berry, and  
Patricia Dawson  
**\$45.00 HARDCOVER**  
9780806196060



**Low April Sun**  
*A Novel*  
By Constance E. Squires  
**\$26.95 HARDCOVER**  
9780806194745

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### **BELLE STARR: THE TRUTH ABOUT THE WILD WEST LEGEND**

**BY Michael Wallis** • *W.W. Norton and Company*

Shortly after her murder in 1889, a highly romanticized book branded Starr as a villain, setting the trend for media that followed. Wallis parses over a century of mythmaking to reveal the woman behind the legend. Turning a redemptive eye to her legacy, his research reveals a woman demonized for refusing to accept genteel Victorian ideals—a woman who chose instead to live her life outside the law, riding sidesaddle with a pearl-handled Colt .45 strapped to her hip. Stickups, bank robberies, and horse thefts staged by Starr's inner circle would take her all over the American Southwest until she finally settled in present-day Oklahoma.

### **BLACK MOSES: A SAGA OF AMBITION AND THE FIGHT FOR A BLACK STATE**

**BY Caleb Gayle** • *Riverhead Books*

In this paradigm-shattering work of American history, Caleb Gayle recounts the extraordinary tale of Edward McCabe, a Black man who championed the audacious idea to create a state within the Union governed by and for Black people—and the racism, politics, and greed that thwarted him. Gayle brings to vivid life the Black people who believed in McCabe's dream of a Black state, the white politicians who didn't, and the larger challenges of confronting the racism and exclusion bedeviling Black people's attempts to carve a place in America for themselves. Gayle draws from extraordinary research and reporting to reveal an America that almost was.

### **HISTORY OF THE CHEROKEE NATION**

**BY Author Rachel Caroline Eaton, Editors David Berry, Martha Berry, and Patricia Dawson** • *University of Oklahoma Press*

Written shortly before Eaton's death in 1938, this book is the celebrated Cherokee historian's magnum opus, unique for its grounding in Cherokee tradition and perspective. *The History of the Cherokee Nation* spans the years from pre-contact to what Eaton feared would be the Nation's demise after allotment and Oklahoma

statehood in 1907. Its later chapters chronicle events that Eaton herself witnessed, from the repeated incursions by railroad and timber barons, white interlopers, and federal policymakers to the attempted dissolution of Cherokee nationhood. Eaton's *History* also champions the importance of kinship, a cultural tradition carried forward by editors Martha Berry and Patricia Dawson, both descendants, with David Berry.

## **JUSTICE FOR ALL: DICK T. MORGAN, FRONTIER LAWYER AND COMMON MAN'S CONGRESSMAN**

**BY Michael J. Hightower** • *University of Oklahoma Press, 2 Cities Press*

*Justice for All* explores the career of an Oklahoma founding father whose public service reflects a passion for fairness that was sorely lacking in Gilded Age America. After arriving in central Oklahoma in 1889, Morgan developed a reputation as the go-to lawyer for land disputes, built a substantial real estate business, and promoted church-building across the territory. During his tenure in Congress, he helped shape modern America by founding the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Trade Commission, and the Federal Farm Credit System. His bedrock principles rooted in Lincoln's Republican Party, Morgan's adeptness in working across the aisle is a wake-up call to present-day politicians.

## **ONE LUCKY COWBOY**

**BY Bob Burke and Gary Shutt** • *Oklahoma Hall of Fame*

Burns Hargis had a successful career as a lawyer and as vice chairman of Oklahoma's largest bank, but this combined life experience prepared him for his greatest public service as president of Oklahoma State University. This is the story of Burns' life, complete with the humorous series of events that led him to his life partner and greatest supporter, Ann. The title, *One Lucky Cowboy*, expresses Burns' heartfelt sentiment as he recalled his years at OSU. His presidency was the crowning glory of a unique career, during which he used personal charm and inimitable humor to champion worthy organizations and causes that shaped Oklahoma for the better.

## **PEYOTE POLITICS: THE MAKING OF THE NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCH, 1880–1937**

**BY Lisa D. Barnett** • *University of Oklahoma Press*

Placing this history within the broader context of federal “Indian policy” and Progressive Era politics, Barnett shows how, despite their minority status in the American religious landscape, Peyotists were determined to secure constitutional protections for their religion and its rituals. These Native Americans, many not yet American citizens, were true proponents of the constitutional idea of religious freedom. *Peyote Politics* details the ensuing struggle and its significance in reshaping Peyotists’ identity as “Native” and “American,” establishing their place in the American political and legal systems.

## **SOONER DOUGHBOYS WRITE HOME**

**BY David W. Levy** • *University of Oklahoma Press*

Days before the armistice was signed ending World War I, Stratton D. Brooks, third president of the University of Oklahoma, sent a letter to every student, former student, and faculty member serving in the armed forces. He had a request: would each man write a letter in reply, describing his experiences and impressions during his wartime service? Dozens of them responded in late 1918 and early 1919. Now, more than a century later, historian David W. Levy has selected and annotated fifty-three of these letters. This is a richly detailed—and often poignant—record of what these young men witnessed firsthand.

## **TULSA, 2021: A MASSACRE’S CENTENNIAL AND A NATION’S RECKONING**

**BY Randy Krehbiel** • *University of Oklahoma Press*

2021: As the centennial of one of the nation’s worst race massacres approached, citizens of Tulsa faced the prospect with hope and dread. Hope that the anniversary would show Tulsa had changed since that day in 1921, when a white mob left the city’s thriving African American Greenwood neighborhood a smoldering ruin. Dread that Tulsa’s faults would be exposed as never before, its racism reinforced rather than mitigated. This book offers a well-informed, layered view of how Tulsans and Americans nationwide met that moment of crisis and what the experience can tell us about racial politics today.

## **MAKING OF THE KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON**

**AUTHORS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS** Shannon Shaw Duty, Benny Polacca, Chelsea T. Hicks, Allison Herrera, Ruby Hansen Murray, Tristan Joseph Espinoza, Cody Hammer, Sherry Stinson, Echo Reed, Louise Red Corn • *Osage News*

Over two years in the making, this powerful collection features original reporting and photography that documented the film's presence in Osage Country—from local casting calls and cultural consultation to location shoots and community reflections. Produced entirely by Osage News, the independent media of the Osage Nation, the book offers an authentic, behind-the-scenes look at one of the most significant cultural moments in modern Osage history.

## **ROUTE 66: THE FIRST 100 YEARS**

**BY Jim Ross • PHOTOS BY Shellee Graham • Reedy Press**

Beautifully illustrated with hundreds of photographs, many of them vintage, this book arranges the visual saga of Route 66 alongside a compelling narrative that celebrates the centennial of the route and pays homage to the lives that were shaped or changed by this wondrous road. Ladies of legend, the influence of Indigenous America, neon-splashed boulevards, tourist traps, motor courts, trading posts, and heroes both remembered and forgotten—all these and more await discovery inside *Route 66: the First 100 Years*.

## **TOTALLY POSSUM**

**BY Trey Hays • ILLUSTRATED BY Eli Corbin • White Dog Press**

After an embarrassing moment shatters her dream of dancing in the school talent show, Possum decides to run off deep into the woods. Will she ever dance again? An early reader chapter book, *Totally Possum* introduces children to the world of independent reading, while addressing the prevalent emotions of adolescence. Additional glossaries are provided to help readers grow their understanding of performance terminology and connect to Chikashshanompa' (the Chickasaw language).



SOUTHERN  
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*Library System*

*Congratulations*

**Book Award  
Finalists & Winners**

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**From The  
Southern Oklahoma Library System**

### **BRAIDED ROOTS**

**BY Pasha Westbrook, Madelyn Goodnight** • *Scholastic, Orchard Books*

As a young girl's father braids her hair, he weaves a story about the strength and resilience of their ancestors, Freedmen who walked the Trail of Tears from Mississippi to Oklahoma. This stunning, poetic debut picture book from Pasha Westbrook about honoring one's roots and the unbreakable bond of familial love is brought to life with enchanting illustrations by acclaimed illustrator Madelyn Goodnight.

### **THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND THE STUBBORN SHEEP**

**BY Hannah E. Harrison** • *Zonderkidz*

Meet George, a silly and sometimes stubborn sheep living happily under the care of a Good Shepherd. But when shearing time comes, George decides it's time to make a run for it and embarks on a journey full of unexpected disappointment, discomfort, and danger. Ultimately, he finds rescue and learns why he really does need a shepherd. *The Good Shepherd and the Stubborn Sheep* uses an unforgettable character and riveting story to illustrate the many comforting and loving attributes of God.

### **MARY HAD A LITTLE JAM**

**BY Tammi Sauer** • *Hachette Book Group, Union Square Kids*

Fashion-forward Mary is known for adding flair everywhere she goes. One day, while strumming her ukulele, she decides to make music on a grander scale, and she knows she can use her stylish talent to organize a fabulous band. Soon, she's rehearsing with her friends. When the group strikes some wrong notes and chaos ensues, Mary steps up, takes the lead, and restores harmony—just in time for a big performance.

## **VAMPIRITA AND THE MUSICAL MAYHEM (VAMPIRITA BOOK 2)**

**BY Mariana Llanos** • *Reycraft Books*

As Vampirita adjusts to life in Sunny City, she is horrified to learn that everyone's parents will be invited to Spectacular Career Day. When she tells everyone that her father can't attend because he's a fearsome vampire lord, she must find a way to make sure her parents never hear about the event. Her father discovers Vampirita doesn't want him to attend because he's "only a non-vampire musician," and Vampirita is surprised to realize that her dad is more powerful than she ever imagined.

## **WOODY'S WORDS**

**BY Lisa Rogers** • *Astra Publishing House, Calkins Creek*

When Woody Rawls read *The Call of the Wild*, a classic novel about a mistreated dog and a kindly man, his life was forever changed. Maybe it was because he loved his own dog, or maybe it was because the story reached deep into his heart and stayed there. From then on, Woody was determined to learn to write and become a teller of tales. He went on to pen several novels and publish two books for children, including the timeless classic *Where the Red Fern Grows*. This story of hard work, creatively presented by author Lisa Rogers and illustrator Susan Reagan, will resonate with young readers and adults alike.

The seal of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame Book Award is a circular emblem. It features a central shield with an open book and a quill pen. The words "OKLAHOMA" are arched across the top, and "BOOK AWARD" is arched across the bottom. The text "OKLAHOMA HALL OF FAME" is written in a smaller font across the middle of the seal.

**THANK YOU**

OKLAHOMA HALL OF FAME

*Bob Burke*

### **AUBREY HELPS A GHOST**

**BY Desiree Webber** • *G. Markle Publishing*

Aubrey is determined to take home first prize in her school writing contest and believes she has the perfect story: her Uncle Dave's strange encounter at the haunted Wilson House. When he tells her about his midnight visit and the possessed doll at the window, Aubrey is fascinated—but for a chance at winning the contest she will need to dig deeper. Aubrey and her friends quickly realize there is more to this story than just a haunted doll. They find themselves on a mission to uncover the truth and help some ghosts in need.

### **AUGMENTED (THE HYBRID SERIES BOOK 3)**

**BY Candace Kade** • *Enclave Escape Publishing*

After sentencing Lee Urban to the banned list, half of the Asian Federation believes she is a ticking time bomb that could end the world as they know it. They're willing to do anything to erase her existence and silence her voice before she can take a stand. There's only one way to fight back: enroll in the Race to the Clouds. Winning the competition would garner global media attention, giving Urban the coverage she needs to dismantle the enhancement programs. As enemies close in, riots erupt, and her homeland teeters on the brink of civil war, one thing is certain. She's running out of time—not just for herself, but for every Natural she represents.

### **AUGUST RAIN**

**BY Marlo Holly** • *Balboa Press*

Twelve-year-old Marnie Price thought losing her grandfather was the hardest thing she'd ever face; then, a mysterious crossword puzzle shows up in the mail, followed by a cryptic note, and eventually a key. Suddenly, Marnie is unraveling a trail of secrets left behind by the man she adored: a former World War II codebreaker whose history is far more complicated than anyone knew. With help from her cousin Mel, her brother Nick, and a classmate who may know more than he's saying, Marnie begins decoding clues that lead her to a hidden operation called August Rain and a secret that could change everything.

## **CAREFUL WHAT YOU HEAR (DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR? BOOK 2)**

**BY Helen Dunlap Newton** • *Yorkshire Publishing*

After an experimental cochlear implant gave 13-year-old Noah Baker mind reading powers, he became a spy tasked with stopping the bad guys. Noah and his secret agent partner, Lena, have been going on undercover missions for the government. Now, they're in for a reward for all their hard work—Space Camp! All is not as it seems, however. When Noah accidentally overhears a plot to steal top secret plans from nearby Redstone Arsenal, he must make a choice.

## **GITTEL**

**BY Laurie Schneider** • *Regal House Publishing*

Gittel Borenstein's feet are planted stubbornly on the earth, and her tongue is as sharp as Zayde's chalef, the razor he uses for butchering chickens. She's fed up with being called Geetle Beetle, or Jew girl, or worse. The Borensteins and twelve other Jewish families have left behind the deadly pogroms of Eastern Europe only to find life nearly as harsh in 1911 Mill Creek, Wisconsin. Gittel takes refuge in school, where she longs to blend in and dreams of becoming a famous writer—a far-fetched dream when eighth grade is the end at Mill Creek's school and the town bully is determined to make sure a Jewish girl will never blend in.



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### **FILLING STATION**

**BY Vanessa Miller** • *Thomas Nelson*

Sisters Margaret and Evelyn Justice grew up in Tulsa's Greenwood District, also known as Black Wall Street. When the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre upends everything they know and brings unspeakable loss, the sisters flee down what will eventually become Route 66 until they stumble upon the Threatt Filling Station, a safe haven in oppressive Jim Crow America. Here, they process their pain, fill up their souls, and find strength as they wrestle with their faith. They realize that they can't hide out at the filling station when Greenwood needs to be rebuilt. The search for their father and their former life may not give them easy answers, but it can propel them to a place where their voices are stronger... strong enough to build a future that honors the legacy of those who were lost.

### **THE KENNEDY GIRL**

**BY Julia Bryan Thomas** • *Sourcebooks Landmark*

It's the 1960s, and Jackie Kennedy's effortless style leads the nation, although Mia's bustling bakery job doesn't often give her the time or money to craft a stylish closet after her idol in the White House. When a mysterious stranger suddenly offers her a modeling job in Paris at the esteemed House of Rousseau, she takes a chance on it. Becoming more and more successful in her position as an up-and-coming model, she is soon drawn into the Cold War by the very fashion house she works for. Falling further into the world of national crimes and politics, Mia will soon have to decide which side of history she's really on.

### **LOW APRIL SUN**

**BY Constance E. Squires** • *University of Oklahoma Press*

On April 19, 1995, Delaney Travis steps into the Social Security office in Oklahoma City to obtain an ID for her new job. Moments later, an explosion shatters the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building into rubble. Her boyfriend Keith and half-sister Edie are left to assume the worst—that Delaney perished in the bombing, despite lack of definitive proof. Twenty years later, now married and bonded by the tragedy, Edie and Keith find their lives upended when they begin to receive

messages from someone claiming to be Delaney. Desperate for closure, the couple embarks on separate journeys, each aiming for an artists' community in New Mexico that may hold answers. In their quest for answers, Edie and Keith seek to understand how the shadows of the past continue to darken the present, as the ground beneath them threatens to give way once again.

## **A RARE OBSESSION**

**BY Sheldon Russell** • *Cynren Press*

Desperate for a job and heartbroken, newly graduated Ethan Poser takes a custodial position at the Carnegie Library. When he chances upon the body of his predecessor in a nearby city park and is implicated in the murder, Ethan's life takes a dangerous turn. Librarian Anna Khole detects that the library's rare book collection, worth millions, has been pilfered over the years and that Ethan's ghastly discovery may be connected. As law enforcement investigates, Ethan finds himself drawn to the mysterious and intelligent Anna, who may hold the key to solving the mystery. Their attraction grows but so does the danger, and one person's obsession could lead to a tragic end for them both.

## **SHADOW OF THE SOLSTICE**

**BY Anne Hillerman** • *HarperCollins, Harper*

The Navajo Nation police are on high alert when a U.S. official visits the little Navajo town of Shiprock, New Mexico. This trip coincides with a plan to resume uranium mining along the Navajo Nation border, and tensions escalate when a body is found in an area restricted for radioactive waste. When a violent cult adds to the chaos by settling at a nearby campground, Officer Bernadette Manuelito is assigned to monitor the situation. She makes shocking discoveries that plunge her and Lt. Jim Chee into danger. Meanwhile, Darlene, Bernie's high-spirited younger sister, learns one of her home health clients is gone. Darleen's curiosity and sense of duty lead her to discover that both the client and her grandson have become ensnared in a scheme exploiting indigenous people. Darleen's information meshes with Chee's case, exposing the evil underside of human nature.

*Congratulations*



*Carolyn Brown*

*On Receiving The  
Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award*



*From  
The Southern Oklahoma Library System*



# Pioneer

**LIBRARY SYSTEM**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**  
**Book Award Finalists and Winners**





# Carolyn Brown

## *Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement* AWARD RECIPIENT

A *USA Today*, *New York Times*, and *Publisher's Weekly* bestselling author, Carolyn Brown has published over 60 books throughout her career, making an indelible mark in the romance, western, and women's fiction genres. Born in Texas, Carolyn grew up and makes her home in southern Oklahoma. Written in a small town of less than three thousand people, her books have been translated into 21 languages—with more than six million copies sold! Multiple titles, such as *The Ladies Room* and *The Family Journal*, have been shortlisted for awards.

From her late husband and the love of her life, Charles, to a little sister who read her early writing, she credits her family for support and inspiration. Her grandmother told her that if a person loves what they do, then they are a success—no matter if that job is ditch digging or sitting behind the desk in the oval office. She loves what she does, so she considers herself a success as she goes through the days with quirky characters in her head, telling their stories, one by one. When Carolyn is not writing she likes to travel with her family and plot out new stories.

The Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award

*The Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award is presented each year to recognize a body of work. The award is named for the historian from Norman, Oklahoma who served as the Oklahoma Center for the Book's first president.*

# PREVIOUS AWARD WINNERS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

## Children/Young Adult

- 1990 **Helen Roney Sattler** • *Tyrannosaurus Rex and Its Kin*
- 1991 **Stan Hoig** • *A Capital for the Nation*
- 1992 **Jess** and **Bonnie Speer** • *Hillback to Boggy*
- 1993 **Anna Myers** • *Red Dirt Jessie*
- 1994 **Diane Hoyt-Goldsmith** • *Cherokee Summer*
- 1995 **Russell G. Davis** and **Brent Ashabranner** • *The Choctaw Code*
- 1996 **Anna Myers** • *Graveyard Girl*
- 1997 **Barbara Snow Gilbert** • *Stone Water*
- 1998 **S. L. Rottman** • *Hero*
- 1999 **Barbara Snow Gilbert** • *Broken Chords*
- 2000 **Harold Keith** • *Brief Garland: Ponytails, Basketball, and Nothing But Net*
- 2001 **Joyce Carol Thomas** • *Hush Songs*
- 2002 **Molly Levite Griffis** • *The Rachel Resistance*
- 2003 **Darleen Bailey Beard** • *The Babbs Switch Story*
- 2004 Children **Una Belle Townsend** • *Grady's in the Silo* \* Young Adult **Sharon Darrow** • *The Painters of Lexieville*
- 2005 Children **Joyce Carol Thomas** • *The Gospel Cinderella* \* Young Adult **Molly Levite Griffis** • *Simon Says*
- 2006 **Anna Myers** • *Assassin*
- 2007 Children **Tim Tingle** • *Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship and Freedom* \* Young Adult **Tim Tharp** • *Knights of the Hill Country*
- 2008 Children **Devin Scillian** • *Pappy's Handkerchief* \* Young Adult **P.C. Cast** and **Kristin Cast** • *Marked: A House of Night Novel*
- 2009 **Anna Myers** • *Spy*
- 2010 Children **Tammi Sauer** • *Chicken Dance* \* Young Adult **George Edward Stanley** • *Night Fires*
- 2011 Children **Tammi Sauer** • *Mostly Monsterly* \* Young Adult **M.J. Alexander** • *Portrait of a Generation: The Children of Oklahoma*
- 2012 Children **Glenda Galvan** • *Chikasha Stories, Volume One: Shared Spirit* \* Young Adult **Sonia Gensler** • *The Revenant*
- 2013 Children **Frank Keating** • *George: George Washington Our Founding Father* \* Young Adult **M. Scott Carter** • *The Immortal Von B.*
- 2014 Children **Tammi Sauer** • *Nugget & Fang* \* Young Adult **Tim Tharp** • *MOJO*
- 2015 Children **Greg Rodgers** • *Chukfi Rabbit's Big, Bad Bellyache: A Trickster Tale* \* Young Adult **Roy Deering** • *Finders Keepers*
- 2016 Children **Cynthia Liu** • *Bike on, Bear!* \* Young Adult **Alton Carter** • *The Boy Who Carried Bricks*
- 2017 Children **Jane McKellips** • *Dust Storm* \* Young Adult **Lutricea Clifton** • *Seeking Cassandra*
- 2018 Children/Young Adult **Patricia Loughlin** • *Angie Debo: Daughter of the Prairie*
- 2019 Children **Hannah E. Harrison** • *Friends Stick Together* \* Young Adult **Brad McLelland** and **Louis Sylvesterr** • *Legends of the Lost Causes*
- 2020 Children **Hannah E. Harrison** • *Bear Is Awake!* \* Young Adult **Kate Hannigan** • *CAPE*
- 2021 Children **Barbara Lowell** • *My Mastodon* \* Young Adult **Kim Ventrella** • *The Secret Life of Sam*
- 2022 Children **Mariana Llanos** • *Run, Little Chaski! An Inka Trail Adventure* \* Young Adult **Dan SaSuWeh Jones** • *Living Ghosts & Mischievous Monsters: Chilling American Indian Stories*
- 2023 Children **Tammi Sauer** • *Mary Had a Little Plan* \* Young Adult **Nikki Shannon Smith** • *Lena and the Burning of Greenwood: A Tulsa Race Massacre Survival Story*
- 2024 Children **Mariana Llanos** • *Benita and the Night Creatures* \* Young Adult **Traci Sorell** • *Mascot*
- 2025 Children **Andrea L. Rogers** • *When We Gather (Ostadahlisih): A Cherokee Tribal Feast* \* Young Adult **Ginger Reno** • *Find Her*

## Design/Illustration/Photography

- 1990 **David E. Hunt** • *The Lithographs of Charles Banks Wilson*
- 1991 **Carol Haralson** • *Cleora's Kitchens*
- 1992 **Joe Williams** • *Woolaroc*
- 1993 Design **Carol Haralson** • *Will Rogers: Courtship and Correspondence* \* Illustration **Kandy Radzinski** • *The Twelve Cats of Christmas*
- 1994 **Deloss McGraw** • *Fish Story*
- 1995 **Mike Wimmer** • *All the Places to Love*
- 1996 **Kim Doner** • *Green Snake Ceremony*
- 1997 **Carol Haralson** and **Harvey Payne** • *Big Bluestem: A Journey into the Tall Grass*
- 1998 **Carol Haralson** • *Visions and Voices: Native American Painting from the Philbrook Museum of Art*
- 1999 **David Fitzgerald** • *Bison: Monarch of the Plains*
- 2000 **Carol Haralson** • *Glory Days of Summer: The History of Baseball in Oklahoma*
- 2001 **Lane Smith** • *The Very Persistent Gappers of Frip*
- 2002 **Carl Brune** • *Woven Worlds: Basketry from the Clark Field Collection*
- 2003 **Murv Jacob** • *The Great Ball Game of the Birds and Animals*
- 2004 Design **Scott Horton** and **Jim Argo** • *Family Album: A Centennial Pictorial of the Oklahoma Publishing Company* \* Illustration **Kandy Radzinski** • *S is for Sooner*

- 2005 **Carol Haralson** • *A History of the Oklahoma Governor's Mansion*
- 2006 Design **Carol Haralson** • *Home: Native People in the Southwest* \* Illustration **Jon Goodell** • *Mother, Mother, I Want Another*
- 2007 Design **Carl Brune** • *OKC: Second Time Around* \* Illustration **Jeanne Rorex Bridges** • *Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship and Freedom*
- 2008 Design **Carl Brune**, photography by **Scott Raffe** • *Oklahoma: A Portrait of America* \* Illustration **Kandy Radzinski** • *What Cats Want for Christmas*
- 2009 Design **Eric H. Anderson** and **Karen Hayes-Thumann**, photography by **Todd Stewart** • *Placing Memory: A Photographic Exploration of Japanese American Internment* \* Illustration **Kandy Radzinski** • *What Dogs Want for Christmas*
- 2010 Design **Carol Haralson** • *Willard Stone* \* Illustration **Kandy Radzinski** • *Where to Sleep*
- 2011 **Carol Haralson** • *Building One Fire*
- 2012 Design **Eric Anderson** • *The Eugene B. Adkins Collection* \* Illustration photography by **Sanford Mauldin**, design by **Skip McKinstry** • *Ilimpa'chi' (Let's Eat!): A Chickasaw Cookbook*
- 2013 Design **Carol Haralson**, with cover by **Tony Roberts** • *The James T. Bialac Native American Art Collection* \* Illustration **Mike Wimmer** • *George: George Washington Our Founding Father*
- 2014 Design **Jenny Chan** and **Lisa Yelon**, photography by **Alan Karchmer** and **Joe C. Aker** • *Devon* \* Illustration **Jeannie Barbour** • *Chikasha Stories Volume Three: Shared Wisdom*
- 2015 Design book design by **Julie Rushing** and jacket design by **Anthony Roberts** • *A Legacy in Arms* \* Illustration **Hannah E. Harrison** • *Extraordinary Jane*
- 2016 Design **Laura Hyde** • *Making Friends Was My Business* \* Photography **Sanford Mauldin**, book and cover design by **Corey Fetters** • *Ilittibaaimpa: Let's Eat Together! A Chickasaw Cookbook*
- 2017 Design **Douglas Miller** • *4th and Boston: Heart of the Magic Empire* \* Illustration **Terry Widener** • *My Name is James Madison Hemings*
- 2018 Design **Laura Hyde** • *The Robson Ranch: Hard Work and Family Ties* \* Illustration **Janet Skates** • *Marmie: A Mouse on Main Street*
- 2019 Design book design by **Christopher Lee**, cover design by **Steven Walker**, cover photography by **Joel Sartore**, and illustrations by **J.J. Ritchey** • *Love Can Be* \* Illustration **Hannah E. Harrison** • *Friends Stick Together*
- 2020 Design book design by **Gentry Fisher**, cover design by **Corey Fetters** • *Protecting Our People: Chickasaw Law Enforcement in Indian Territory* \* Illustration **Hannah E. Harrison** • *Bear Is Awake!*
- 2021 Design **Tony Roberts** • *Renegades: Bruce Goff and the American School of Architecture*
- 2022 Design **Eric Singleton** and **Julie Allred** • *Recovering Ancient Spiro: Native American Art, Ritual, and Cosmic Renewal* \* Illustration **Joshua (Lokosh) Hinson** • *Funny Fani'*
- 2023 Design **Gentry Chapman**, **Skip McKinstry**, and **Wiley Barnes** • *Capital City: History of Tishomingo* \* Illustration **Jeannine Bulleigh** • *Save-It-Forward Suppers: A Simple Strategy to Save Time, Money and Sanity* \* Photography **David Jennings** • *The Smallest Hint: Photographs and Poems*
- 2024 Design **Jackson Davis** • *Otis W. Leader: The Ideal American Doughboy* \* Illustration **Brian Call** • *The Florentine Poet*
- 2025 Design **Carl Brune** • *Echoes of Light: Images into Writing* \* Illustration **Paul Peart-Smith** • *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* \* Photography **Jeanie Gooden** • *findings: translations hallazgos: traducciones*

## Fiction

- 1990 **Robert Love Taylor** • *The Lost Sister*
- 1991 **Linda Hogan** • *Mean Spirit*
- 1992 **Robert L. Duncan** • *The Serpent's Mark*
- 1993 **Rilla Askew** • *Strange Business*
- 1994 **Eve Sandstrom** • *Down Home Heifer Heist*
- 1995 **William Bernhardt** • *Perfect Justice*
- 1996 **Billie Letts** • *Where the Heart Is*
- 1997 **Stewart O'Nan** • *The Names of the Dead*
- 1998 **Rilla Askew** • *The Mercy Seat*
- 1999 **Billie Letts** • *The Honk and Holler Opening Soon*
- 2000 **William Bernhardt** • *Dark Justice*
- 2001 **Carolyn Hart** • *Sugarplum Dead*
- 2002 **Douglas Kelley** • *The Captain's Wife*
- 2003 **Diane Glancy** • *The Mask Maker: A Novel*
- 2004 **M.K. Preston** • *Song of the Bones*
- 2005 **Will Thomas** • *Some Danger Involved*
- 2006 **David Kent** • *The Black Jack Conspiracy*
- 2007 **Sheldon Russell** • *Dreams to Dust: A Tale of the Oklahoma Land Rush*
- 2008 **Rilla Askew** • *Harpsong*
- 2009 **Carolyn Wall** • *Sweeping Up Glass*
- 2010 **Kirk Bjornsgaard** • *Confessions of a Former Rock Star*
- 2011 **David Gerard** • *God's Acre*
- 2012 **Constance Squires** • *Along the Watchtower*
- 2013 **Linda McDonald** • *Crimes of Redemption*
- 2014 **Jack Shakely** • *Che Guevara's Marijuana and Baseball Savings and Loan*
- 2015 **Will Thomas** • *Fatal Enquiry*
- 2016 **Lou Berney** • *The Long and Faraway Gone*
- 2017 **Luana Ehrlich** • *Three Weeks in Washington*
- 2018 **Sheldon Russell** • *The Bridge Troll Murders*
- 2019 **Lou Berney** • *November Road*
- 2020 **Mary Anna Evans** • *Catacombs*
- 2021 **Aaron Gwyn** • *All God's Children*

- 2022 **Mary Coley** • *Blood on the Mother Road*  
 2023 **Mary Anna Evans** • *The Physicist's Daughter*  
 2024 **Sheldon Russell** • *Listen*  
 2025 **Ken Steele** • *The Promise of Unbroken Straw*

## Non-Fiction

- 1990 **Leonard Leff** • *Hitchcock & Selznick*  
 1991 **Carl Albert** and **Danney Goble** • *Little Giant*  
 1992 **David Morgan, Robert England,** and **George Humphreys** • *Oklahoma Politics & Policies: Governing the Sooner State*  
 1993 **Henry Bellmon** and **Pat Bellmon** • *The Life and Times of Henry Bellmon*; and **Daniel Boorstin** • *The Creators*  
 1994 **J. Brent Clark** • *3rd Down and Forever*  
 1995 **Dennis McAuliffe Jr.** • *The Deaths of Sybil Bolton*  
 1996 **William Paul Winchester** • *A Very Small Farm*  
 1997 **Annick Smith** • *Big Bluestem: A Journey Into the Tall Grass*  
 1998 **John Hope Franklin** and **John Whittington Franklin**, Editors • *My Life and an Era: The Autobiography of Buck Colbert Franklin*  
 1999 **Bob Burke** • *From Oklahoma to Eternity: The Life of Wiley Post and the Winnie Mae*  
 2000 **Michael Wallis** • *The Real Wild West: The 101 Ranch and the Creation of the American West*  
 2001 **David LaVere** • *Contrary Neighbors: Southern Plains and Removed Indians in Indian Territory*  
 2002 **Lydia L. Wyckoff**, Editor • *Woven Worlds: Basketry from the Clark Field Collection*  
 2003 **Michael A. Mares** • *A Desert Calling: Life in a Forbidding Landscape*  
 2004 **Eric R. Pianka** and **Laurie J. Vitt** • *Lizards: Windows to the Evolution of Diversity*  
 2005 **Ed Cray** • *Ramblin' Man: The Life and Times of Woody Guthrie*  
 2006 **Timothy Egan** • *The Worst Hard Time*  
 2007 **Charles Robert Goins** and **Danney Goble** • *Historical Atlas of Oklahoma, Fourth Edition*  
 2008 **Nancy Isenberg** • *Fallen Founder: The Life of Aaron Burr*  
 2009 **Linda Peavy** and **Ursula Smith** • *Full Court Quest: The Girls from Shaw Indian School, Basketball Champions of the World*  
 2010 **Randy Ramer, Carole Klein, Kimberly Roblin, Eric Singleton, Anne Morand, Gary Moore,** and **April Miller** • *Thomas Gilcrease*  
 2011 **S. C. Gwynne** • *Empire of the Summer Moon: Quanah Parker and the Rise and Fall of the Comanches, the Most Powerful Indian Tribe in American History*  
 2012 **Daniel Blake Smith** • *An American Betrayal: Cherokee Patriots and the Trail of Tears*  
 2013 **W.K. Stratton** • *Floyd Patterson: The Fighting Life of Boxing's Invisible Champion*  
 2014 **Mary Jane Warde** • *When the Wolf Came: The Civil War and the Indian Territory*  
 2015 **Cheryl Elizabeth Brown Wattlely** • *A Step Toward Brown v. Board of Education: Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher and Her Fight to End Segregation*  
 2016 **Holly Bailey** • *The Mercy of the Sky*  
 2017 **Rusty Williams** • *The Red River Bridge War: A Texas-Oklahoma Border Battle*  
 2018 **David Grann** • *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*  
 2019 **Robert L. Dorman** • *Alfalfa Bill: A Life in Politics*  
 2020 **Randy Krehbiel** • *Tulsa 1921: Reporting a Massacre*  
 2021 **David W. Levy** • *Breaking Down Barriers: George McLaurin and the Struggle to End Segregated Education*  
 2022 **Michael J. Hightower** • *At War with Corruption: A Biography of Bill Price, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Oklahoma*  
 2023 **Tracy Daugherty** • *The Land and the Days: A Memoir of Family, Friendship, and Grief*  
 2024 **Sarah Elisabeth Sawyer** • *Otis W. Leader: The Ideal American Doughboy*  
 2025 **Rebecca Nagle** • *By the Fire We Carry*

## Poetry

- 1990 **William Kistler** • *The Elizabeth Sequence*  
 1992 **Carol Hamilton** • *Once the Dust*  
 1993 **Jim Barnes** • *The Sawdust War*  
 1994 **Carter Revard** • *An Eagle Nation*  
 1995 **Joy Harjo** • *The Woman Who Fell from the Sky*  
 1996 **Francine Ringold** • *The Trouble with Voices*  
 1997 **Renata Treitel** • translation of Rosita Copioli's *The Blazing Lights of the Sun*  
 1998 **Betty Shipley** • *Somebody Say Amen*  
 2000 **Mark Cox** • *Thirty-Seven Years from the Stone*  
 2000 **N. Scott Momaday** • *In the Bear's House*  
 2001 **Carolynne Wright** • *Seasons of Mangoes and Brainfire*  
 2002 **Ivy Dempsey** • *The Scent of Water: New and Selected Poems*  
 2003 **Joy Harjo** • *How We Became Human: New and Selected Poems*  
 2004 **Laura Apol** • *Crossing the Ladder of Sun*  
 2005 **Francine Ringold** • *Still Dancing*  
 2006 **Leanne Howe** • *Evidence of Red*  
 2007 **Carl Sennhenn** • *Travels Through Enchanted Woods*  
 2008 **Sandra Soli** • *What Trees Know*  
 2009 **Nathan Brown** • *Two Tables Over*  
 2010 **Jeanetta Calhoun Mish** • *Work is Love Made Visible: Poetry and Family Photographs*  
 2011 **Benjamin Myers** • *Elegy for Trains*  
 2012 **Joe Dale Tate Nevaquaya** • *Leaving Holes & Selected New Writings*

- 2013 **Carl Sennhenn** • *Nocturnes and Sometimes, Even I*  
 2014 **Yvonne Carpenter, Nancy Goodwin, Catherine McCraw, Clynell Reinschmiedt, and Carol Waters** • *Red Dirt Roads*  
 2015 **Jessica Isaacs** • *Deep August*  
 2016 **Loren Graham** • *Places I Was Dreaming*  
 2017 **Sly Alley** • *Strong Medicine*  
 2018 **Ron Wallace** • *Renegade (and Other Poems)*  
 2019 **Laura Apol** • *Nothing but the Blood*  
 2020 **Joy Harjo** • *An American Sunrise*  
 2021 **Linda Hogan** • *A History of Kindness*  
 2022 **Ken Hada** • *Contour Feathers*  
 2023 **Mary B. Gray** • *Who Do You Think You Are?*  
 2024 **Karen Kay Knauss** • *Sand: At the Mercy of Wind*  
 2025 **Cullen Whisenhunt** • *Until Air Itself Is Tinted*

### Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award

- 1990 **Daniel Boorstin**—Librarian of Congress Emeritus—Tulsa  
 1991 **Tony Hillerman**—award-winning mystery writer—native of Sacred Heart  
 1992 **Savoie Lottinville**—Director of the University of Oklahoma Press for 30 years  
 1993 **Harold Keith**—Newbery Award winning children's author—Norman  
 1994 **N. Scott Momaday**—Pulitzer Prize winning Kiowa author—native of Lawton  
 1995 **R.A. Lafferty**—Hugo Award winning author—Tulsa  
 1996 **John Hope Franklin**—historian—native of Rentiesville  
 1997 **S.E. Hinton**—author of young adult novels—Tulsa  
 1998 **Jack Bickham**—novelist, teacher, and journalist—Norman  
 1999 **Michael Wallis**—historian and biographer—Tulsa  
 2000 **Bill Wallace**—writer of novels for young people—Chickasha  
 2001 **Joyce Carol Thomas**—children and adult fiction author, and playwright—native of Ponca City  
 2002 **World Literature Today**—The University of Oklahoma, Norman  
 2003 **Joy Harjo**—poet and member of the Muscogee Nation—native of Tulsa  
 2004 **Carolyn Hart**—award-winning mystery writer—Oklahoma City  
 2005 **C.J. Cherryh**—Hugo Award winning author—Oklahoma City  
 2006 **Bob Burke**—Oklahoma historian—Oklahoma City  
 2007 **Clifton Taulbert**—award-winning author—Tulsa  
 2008 **David Dary**—award-winning author—Norman  
 2009 **Robert J. Conley**—Cherokee author—native of Cushing  
 2010 **David G. Fitzgerald**—award-winning photographer—Oklahoma City

- 2011 **Rilla Askew**—novelist—native of Sans Bois Mountains  
 2012 **Anna Myers**—author of young adult novels—Chandler  
 2013 **Billie Letts**—novelist—Tulsa  
 2014 **Alvin O. Turner**—educator, historian, author, and poet—Norman  
 2015 **Renard Strickland**—author, historian, and legal scholar—Norman  
 2016 **Diane Glancy**—poet, author, and playwright—Tulsa  
 2017 **Dr. George Henderson**—educator and author—Norman  
 2018 **Tim Tingle**—author, storyteller, and performer—member Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma  
 2019 **William Bernhardt**—award-winning author—Choctaw  
 2021 **Hannibal B. Johnson**—author and historian—Tulsa  
 2022 **Jim Stovall**—author, motivational speaker, and movie producer—Tulsa  
 2023 **Sheldon Russell**—author and former educator  
 2024 **LeAnne Howe**—author and professor  
 2025 **Mike Wimmer**—illustrator and portrait painter

### Ralph Ellison Award

- 1995 **Ralph Ellison**—National Book Award winner—Oklahoma City  
 1997 **Angie Debo**—“First Lady of Oklahoma History”—Marshall  
 1999 **Melvin Tolson**—poet, journalist, and dramatist—Langston  
 2000 **Jim Thompson**—novelist and screenwriter—Anadarko  
 2002 **John Berryman**—poet, biographer, and editor—McAlester  
 2004 **Lynn Riggs**—playwright and screenwriter—Claremore  
 2005 **Woody Guthrie**—author, illustrator, and songwriter—Okemah  
 2006 **John Joseph Mathews**—Osage novelist and historian—Pawhuska  
 2007 **Muriel Wright**—acclaimed Oklahoma historian—Oklahoma City  
 2008 **Danney Glenn Goble**—acclaimed Oklahoma historian—Tulsa  
 2010 **Stan Hoig**—author, journalist, and historian—Edmond  
 2013 **Alexander Lawrence Posey**, poet, journalist, and essayist—Eufaula  
 2016 **Dr. H. Wayne Morgan**, author and historian—Norman  
 2017 **Ralph Marsh**, newspaperman, award-winning magazine writer, and author—Okemah  
 2022 **Sanora Babb**, novelist, journalist, and poet—Red Rock

## Lynn McIntosh Award for Excellence

- 2004 **Doris Eaton Travis** • *The Days We Danced: The Story of My Theatrical Family*
- 2005 **B. Byron Price** • *Fine Art of the West* \* **Deborah Duvall** and **Murv Jacob** • The Series of Grandmother Stories
- 2006 **Patricia Loughlin** • *Hidden Treasures of the American West*
- 2011 Editors **Dianna Everett** • **Jon May**, **Larry O'Dell**, and **Linda Wilson** • *Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture*
- 2018 **Gaye Sanders** • *The Survivor Tree*
- 2021 **Russell Cobb** • *The Great Oklahoma Swindle: Race, Religion, and Lies in America's Weirdest State*
- 2022 **Karlos K. Hill** • *The 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre: A Photographic History*
- 2023 **Jeanetta Calhoun Mish** • *The Collected Poems of Josie Craig Berry*
- 2024 **Gwendolyn F. Mukes** • *Gwen Didn't Care*

## Glenda Carlile Distinguished Service Award

- 1999 **Daniel Boorstin**—Librarian of Congress Emeritus \* **John Y. Cole**—Director, Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, 1977–2016 \* **Robert L. Clark**—Director, Oklahoma Department of Libraries, 1976–2000 \* **Lee Brawner**—Director of the Metropolitan Library System, 1972–1999
- 2000 **Ken Jackson**—Tulsa World editor and columnist, Oklahoma Center for the Book Board Member, 1988–2000
- 2001 **Julie Hovis** and **Kathy Kinasewitz**—owners of Best of Books, booksellers for the Oklahoma Book Awards
- 2002 **Dan Blanchard**—a founding member of the Oklahoma Center for the Book and Master of Ceremonies for the book award ceremony for eleven years
- 2005 **Fran Ringold**—Oklahoma poet laureate and the founder and editor for over forty years of the international literary journal *Nimrod*
- 2006 **Oklahoma Today**—for fifty years of publication
- 2007 **Bill Young**—Public Information Manager, Oklahoma Department of Libraries
- 2008 **Bob Burke**—author, and supporter of the Oklahoma Center for the Book \* **B.J. Williams**—producer and host of *Read About It*, and Past President of the Oklahoma Center for the Book
- 2009 **Glenda Carlile**—20 years of service to the Center as volunteer, board member, president, and executive director
- 2010 **Teresa Miller**—founder of the Oklahoma Center for Poets and Writers, and producer and host of *Writing Out Loud*.

- 2011 **Kitty Pittman**—Friends of the Center board member and creator of Oklahoma Authors database
- 2012 **FOLIO/Oklahoma Literary Landmarks**—honoring Oklahoma's writers and poets through historic landmark designations
- 2013 **Fred Marvel**, photographer for the Oklahoma Book Awards \* **Dorothy Alexander**, owner Village Books Press, promoting Oklahoma poets
- 2014 **Lynn McIntosh**, Executive Director of Chickasaw Regional (Public) Library System and Past President of the Friends of the Oklahoma Center for the Book
- 2015 **Laurie Williams**, attorney, and supporter of the Oklahoma Center for the Book
- 2016 **Gini Moore Campbell**, Past President and supporter of the Oklahoma Center for the Book
- 2017 **Anne Masters**, past Director of Pioneer Library System and supporter of the Oklahoma Center for the Book
- 2018 **Ken Hada**, founder and director of Scissortail Creative Writing Festival
- 2024 **Richard Rouillard**, outstanding board member of the Friends of the Center for the Book

## Past Presidents

- Arrell Gibson** 1986–1988 • *namesake of the Center's lifetime achievement award, Norman Dan Blanchard*
- Dan Blanchard** 1988–1990
- Judy Moody** 1990–1992
- David Clark** 1992–1993
- Glenda Carlile** 1994–1995
- Laurie Sundborg** 1996–1997
- Liz Codding** 1998–2000
- B.J. Williams** 2001–2004
- M.J. VanDeventer** 2005–2007
- Lynn McIntosh** 2008–2010
- Gini Moore Campbell** 2011–2015
- Jeanne Devlin** 2016–2018
- Steven Baker** 2019–2023
- Kelley Riha** 2024–2026

**Friends of the  
OKLAHOMA**

# **CENTER FOR THE BOOK**

The Friends of the Oklahoma Center for the Book is a cultural and educational non-profit organization with the mission to advance and promote the role of books and reading in Oklahoma. The Friends support and enhance the various programs and projects of the Oklahoma Center for the Book in the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. A volunteer board of directors from across the state governs this organization.

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# **CENTER FOR THE BOOK**

WISHES TO THANK

## **OUR JUDGES**

The Oklahoma Center for the Book wishes to acknowledge the tremendous contribution of the Oklahoma Book Award judges. There are five judges selected for each category, and they represent a geographical, cultural, educational, ethnic, occupation and racial diversity. The one thing each judge has in common is their love for books and reading.

THE CENTER ACKNOWLEDGES THE  
**GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS**

OF THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS:

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## **SPECIAL THANKS**

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES - PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

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# *Celebrating Oklahoma's Literary Landscape*

*"I love books. They are light enough to carry, yet so heavy with worlds and ideas." – Nnedi Okorafor*

The 2026 Oklahoma Book Awards is a project of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries in partnership with the Friends of the Oklahoma Center for the Book.